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OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN THE FAR EAST. ESTABLISHED 1845.

No. 30,804 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1939 Price: 10 'ts.

INSIST ON

Daisy Brand

Australia's Choicest BUTTER

FINNISH SUICIDE SQUADS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Helsinki, To-day.

The Finnish army has suffered only slight losses, and no wounded have reached hospitals in towns in the interior, showing that the field hospitals, despite restricted facilities, are able to cope with all cases.

Finnish losses have been reduced to a minimum by the fortifications and also by the heroism of members of the "suicide squads."

When the Reds attack the Finns withdraw their troops, leaving in the defence positions a few volunteers armed with machine-guns.

These troops fire only when the enemy has come extremely near.

The volunteers meet certain death, but inflict very heavy losses on the Russians and protect the main body of the Finnish army. — Havas.

HUGE FORCE READY

Stockholm, To-day.

Correspondents in Russia of Swedish newspapers predict an intensification of the Soviet offensives in Finland, and mention 1,500,000 troops and 1,000 planes as being thrown into action soon. — Reuter.

SOVIETS SINK NAZI STEAMER

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Helsinki, To-day.

A Soviet submarine sank the German steamer Bolle-rum (2,200 tons) off Mandy-luoto, yesterday.

The submarine used its 5-inch gun. The captain, mate and one sailor were killed, and 29 others were saved. No further details are available. — Havas.

HOTEL CECIL DRUG CASE

FOUR WELL-DRESSED CHINESE WERE THIS MORNING BEFORE MR. H. EDWARDS CHARGED WITH POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS AT HOTEL CECIL.

Angus, Wong, Tai, Ng, Siu-hon, Wong, and Wong Ngai, were

CIANO "PEACE" SPEECH

Rome, To-day.

Count Ciano is to make his keenly awaited speech on foreign affairs on Saturday morning. There is increasing speculation on the likely trend, with persistent rumours that he will indicate new peace proposals, with Germany's approval. — Reuter.

NOT A SURPRISE IN GENEVA

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Geneva, To-day.

The Kremlin's refusal to send a representative to Geneva has not surprised observers, who, however, have been further shocked by the Soviet Government's reference to the text of M. Molotov's speech on December 4.

It is recalled that M. Molotov declared Russia recognised only the "popular Finnish government" formed at Terijoki after the occupation by the Red Army and headed by Kuusinen, for 20 years an exile and a member of the Comintern's executive committee.

A poor impression has also been created by the fact that the Soviet gave the presence of the Polish delegate at Geneva as one of the motives for their abstention from attending the League meeting. — Havas.

SOVIET MAY BREAK OFF RELATIONS

London, To-day.

Soviet circles in London declare that Moscow will break off diplomatic relations with Paris and London if Russia is expelled from the League.

Similar action will be taken against all countries voting for expulsion. — Reuter.

represented by Mr. C. Y. Kwan.

It was alleged that a large quantity of heroin powder and pills was found in their possession.

Defendants were remanded for a week.

Mr. A. W. Grimhitt opposed bail, except on the basis of \$100,000 for each defendant.

WEATHER FORECAST: North-east winds, fresh, 15 to 20.

WHAT PEACE WOULD MEAN TO CHINA

GLOOMY VIEW OF FUTURE OF NATIONAL DOLLAR

Shanghai, To-day.

FACTORS LIKELY TO influence the future of the Chinese national dollar are weighed by "Finance and Commerce," leading financial weekly, which feels that the fate of the currency depends on whether or not peace returns to the Far East in the near future.

After referring to the recent heavy purchases of foreign exchange in the Shanghai market to cover large imports of cotton and rice, the paper adds: "Commodity prices everywhere are rising, and China has to continue to make essential purchases."

"Not only is she forced to purchase far more heavily in certain directions than she would in normal circumstances but she has to pay twice the number of dollars which would have been necessary six months ago, and four times the number which would have been required less than two years ago."

"There lies the weakness."

"The whole economy of the country is suffering through the tremendous pressure on its purchasing power, and unless there is some change for the better, it is only a question of time before a further collapse is witnessed."

HOPE OF PEACE

"Those who take a long-term view and prophesy a further weakening of exchange rates are probably right in their forecast, if it is just taken

for granted that there is no hope of peace."

"On the other hand, the position is such that should peace come in the comparatively near future, there will be an immediate possibility of a spectacular improvement."

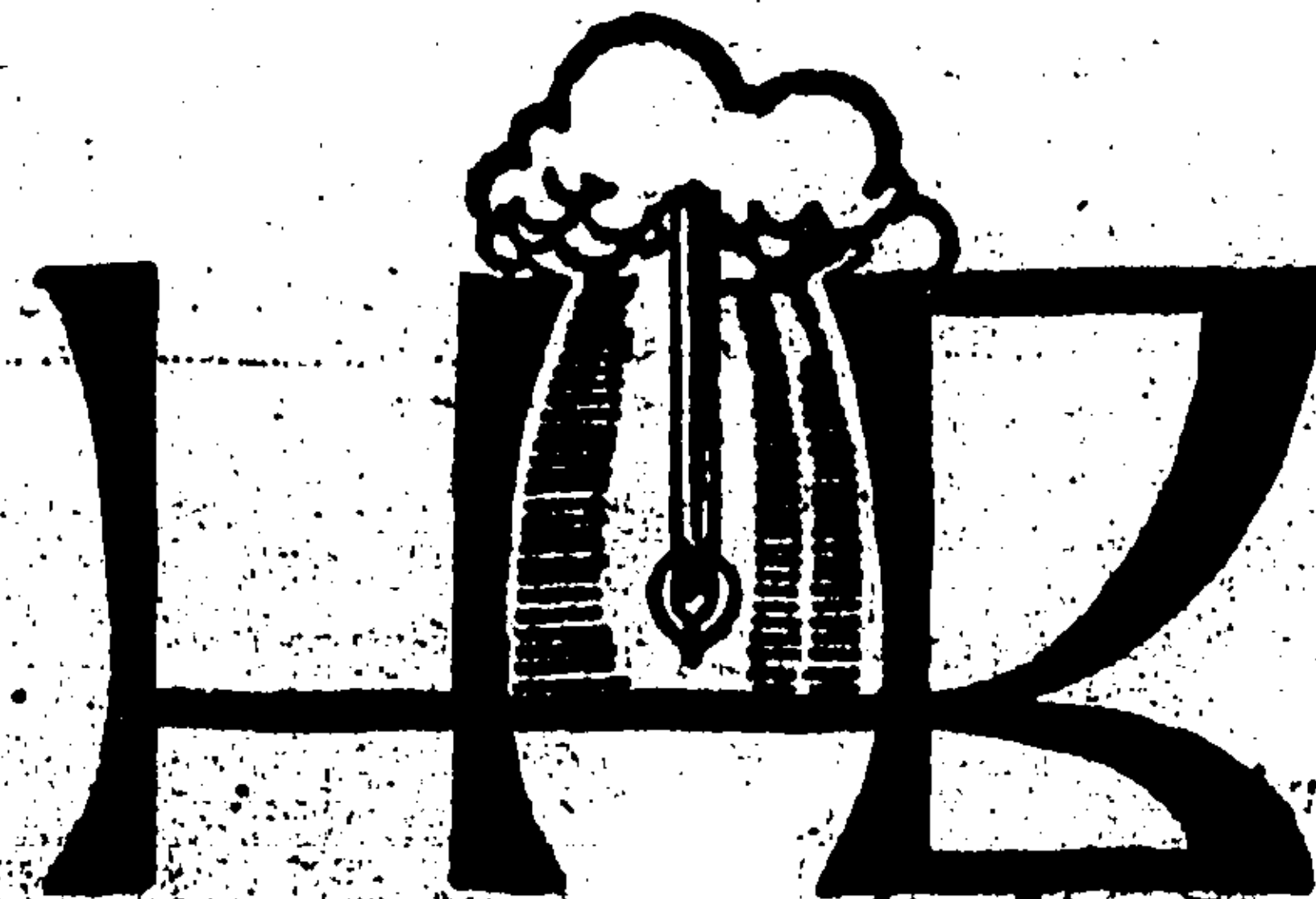
"China even now is supplying foreign markets with gradually increasing quantities of a few native products which are urgently needed, and for which good prices are being paid."

EXPORT IMPETUS

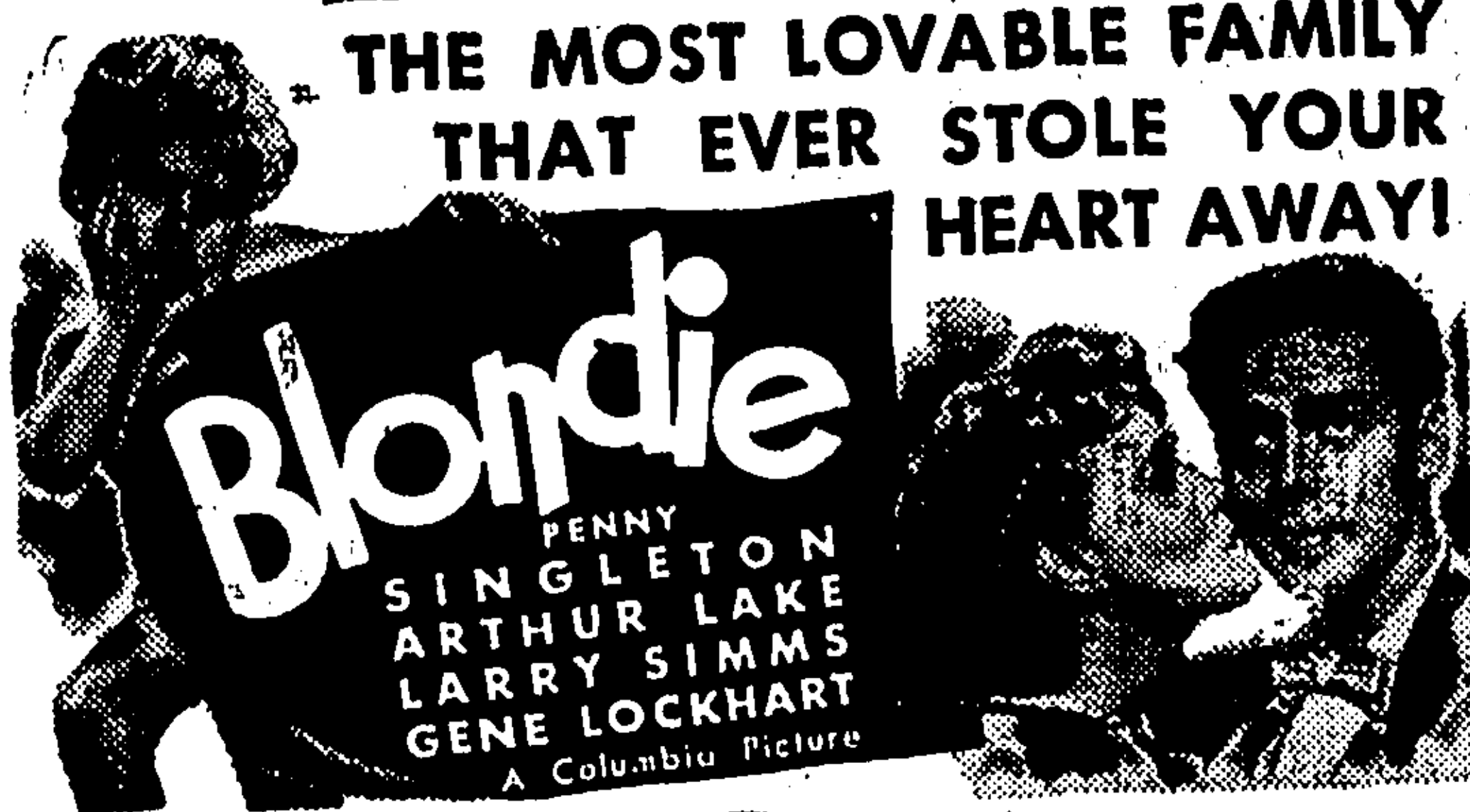
"But it is a constant struggle to get them over the many obstacles which block their way to the coast."

"If those obstacles were suddenly removed, an impetus would be given to export trade which would make its beneficial effect felt in practically all directions." — Reuter.

HAVE AN H.B.—



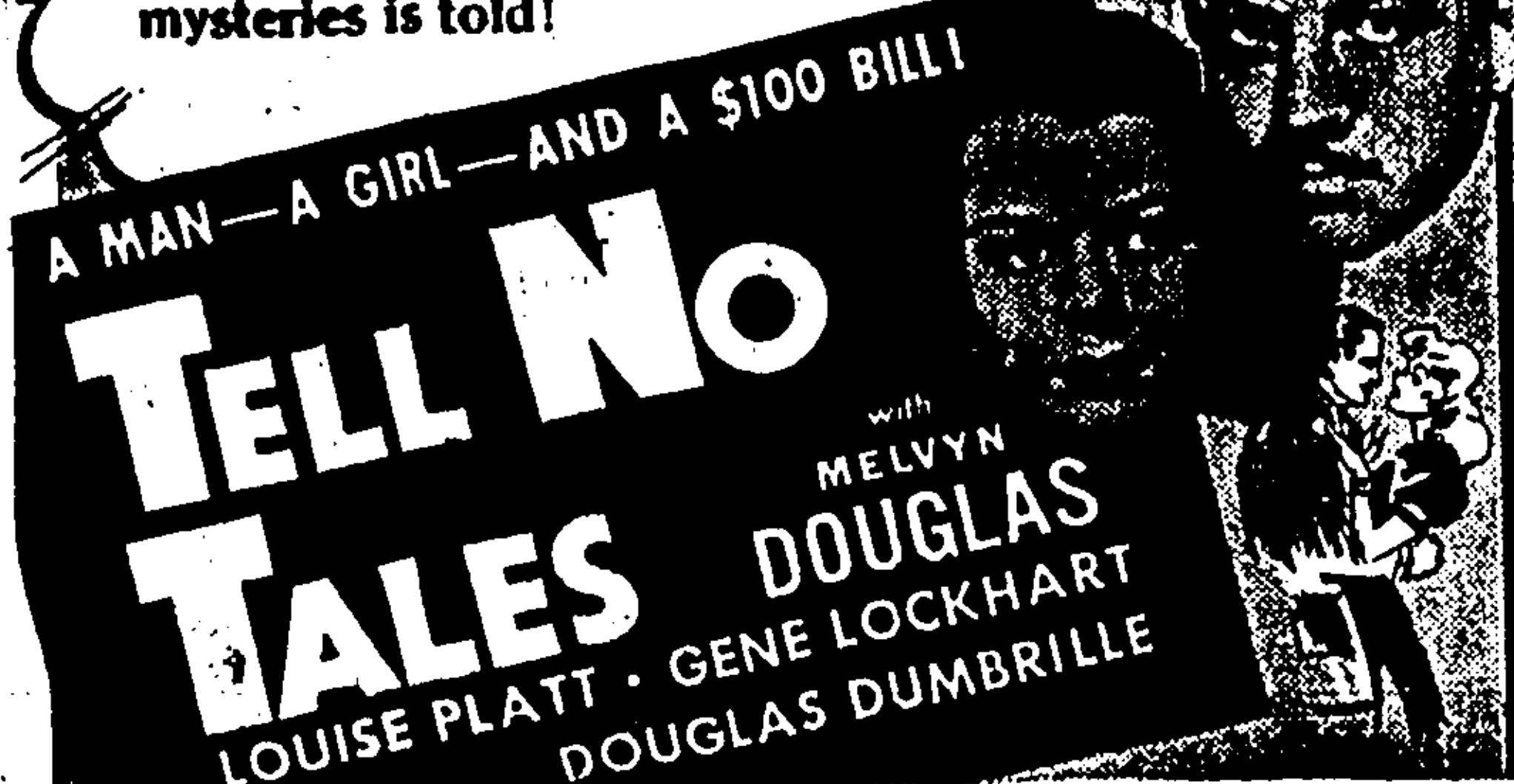
—AND THEN TRY!

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TO-DAY**KING'S**At 2.30, 5.10,
7.15 & 9.30 p.m.

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"THEY SHALL HAVE MUSIC"4 SHOWS
DAILY
2.30-5.20
7.20-9.30**MAJESTIC**NATHAN
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INGENIOUS! NEW! DIFFERENT!Thrills shower the screen as
this strangest of adventure
mysteries is told!

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"BROADWAY MUSKETEERS"MARGARET LINDSAY, ANN SHERIDAN,
MARIE WILSON

A Warner Bros. Comedy-Romance

DAILY
AT
2.50
5.20
7.20
9.20**STAR**HANKOW
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**"THERE'S THAT
WOMAN AGAIN"**

with

MELVYN DOUGLAS
VIRGINIA BRUCE
MARGARET LINDSAY

A Columbia Picture

TO-MORROW
MGM Picture: **"BOHEMIAN GIRL"**

NAZI ACTIVITY IN BALKANS

**HORDES OF CAFE
RUMOUR-MONGERS:
FINANCING PAPERS**

London, To-day.

A DESCRIPTION OF NAZI propaganda in south-east Europe is given by the Balkan correspondent of "The Times."

This propaganda, he writes, operates on a large scale. Large number of Nazi-financed newspapers are to be found in the Danubian and Balkan countries, and these papers, although they have small circulations and poor advertising, miraculously manage to put up large buildings and purchase expensive printing equipment. There are over 60 of them.

Although the German Travel Agency in that area is not a busy place, it employs some 600 people!

Influence is brought to bear on other sections of the press, even bribery being resorted to in an attempt to get good positions in the papers for news favourable to Germany.

The dissemination of propaganda through the post is widely used. During the Polish campaign, mysterious postcards arrived in Rumania telling of the "injustice" of the Allied entry into the war and denying the bombing of open towns.

CAFE RUMOURINGS

Bucharest cafes are a happy hunting ground for what appears to be a vast organization engaged solely in the spreading of false rumours.

German diplomatic circles are busy in the same manner. No Nazi Legation loses the opportunity to make violent protests against the most minor anti-Nazi incidents, on the pretext that such incidents threaten the country's neutrality.—Reuter.

**TWO-WAY
BLOCKADE**

London, To-day.

Mr. Ronald Cross, the Minister of Economic Warfare, said in the House of Commons yesterday that it was sufficient for the present to prevent goods of enemy origin reaching overseas destinations, as the Government was anxious to cause as little loss and inconvenience to neutrals as possible.

The question of whether any more vigorous procedure might be adopted in the future, however, must depend on future circumstances.—Reuter.

**SWEDISH SHIP SUNK
IN OWN WATERS**

Stockholm, To-day.

The 1,400-ton Swedish ship Torno struck a mine in Swedish territorial waters and sank. All those on board have been rescued.—Reuter.

4 SHOWS
DAILY
2.30-5.15
7.15-9.30**ORIENTAL**

TAKE ANY TRAM OR HAPPY VALLEY BUS

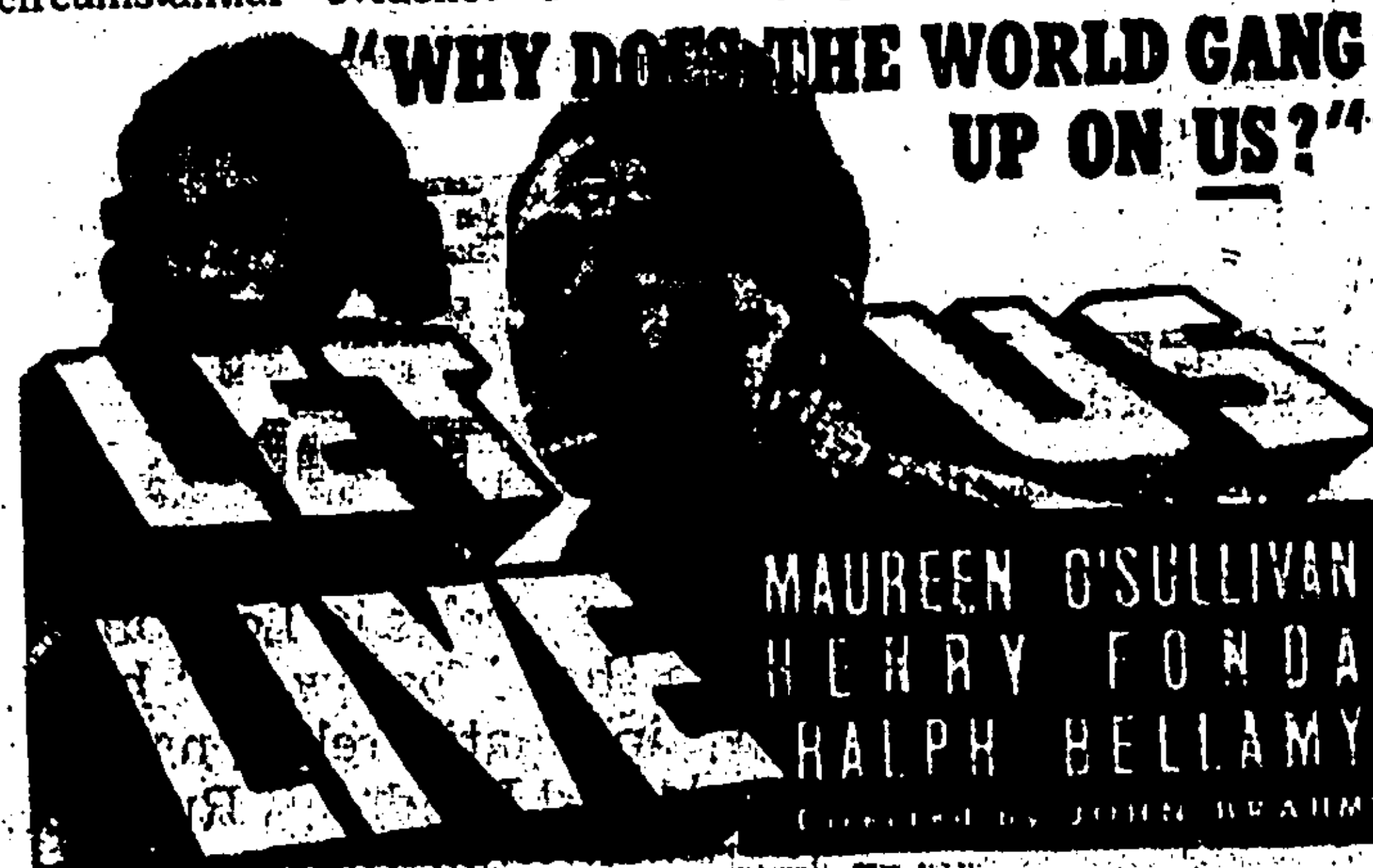
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• LAST 4 TIMES TO-DAY •

THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOU!

Two innocent people convicted of a crime they never committed, "circumstantial" evidence found them guilty of murder.



Repeat Performance—To-morrow Only—By Request!
ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST PICTURES.



The Screen Trembles With
The Thunder of the
Most Heroic and the Most
Dramatic of All Battles!

ALLEGATION IN 'FORGED' MORTGAGE CASE

AN APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO MAKE CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO THE STATEMENT OF DEFENCE, CONSISTING OF SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PLAINTIFFS, WAS MADE BY MR. H. G. SHELDON, K.C., AT THE SUPREME COURT THIS MORNING WHEN THE ACTION, SEEKING A DECLARATION THAT TWO MORTGAGE DEEDS ARE FORGERIES, BROUGHT BY CHAN FUI-HING, CHAN SIK-TIN AND CHAN KWOK-NIM, WAS RESUMED BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR ATHOLL MACGREGOR.

Mr. Eldon Potter, K.C. will reply to-morrow.

Mr. Sheldon now alleges that third plaintiff, Chan Kwok-nim, is not Chan Kwok-nim, but is fraudulently impersonating Chan Kwok-nim; that assuming he is the real Chan Kwok-nim, the mortgages were executed, with his knowledge, by Chan Chung-wah; and, that first and second plaintiffs, Chan Fui-hing and Chan Sik-tin, were aware of the impersonation.

For the purpose of identification, three witnesses were called this morning and testified that Chan Kwok-nim and Chan Chung-wah were two different persons. They identified Chan Kwok-nim in Court and the photograph of Chan Chung-wah.

The three witnesses, however, admitted that on no occasion had they ever seen them together.

Plaintiffs are represented by Mr. Eldon Potter, K.C., and the Hon. Mr. Leo D'Almada, Jnr., instructed by Mr. C. D'Almada. Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., and Mr. H. C. Macnamara, instructed by Mr. M. M. Watson are for Fung Kai-sun, against whom the action was brought.

Plaintiffs seek (1) a declaration that two mortgages purporting to have been executed by them were forgeries and that they were and are null and void; (2) a declaration that the

U.S. NAVY BUYS TROOP TRANSPORTS FOR EAST

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Washington, To-day.
The Navy Department has purchased from the Grace Line the ships Santa Rita and Santa Inez, which will be attached as troop transports to the U.S. auxiliary fleet in the Pacific.

Simultaneously it is announced that the Navy Department acquired some time ago the steamer Southern Cross, which was also transformed into a transport ship.—Havas.

defendant had no right in nor was entitled to the property; (3) rectification by the Registrar of the Land Office; (4) an account of all rents and profits relating to the property and received by the defendant since he entered into possession and (5), an injunction against the defendant from collecting or receiving the rents or acting as mortgage of the property.

The property involved is at No. 300, Des Voeux Road Central and No. 22, Wing Lok Street.

ARRESTED WITH A DAGGER

Leung Choi, 25, copper smith, was before Mr. R. A. D. Forrest this morning, charged with possession of an offensive weapon.

Detective Sergeant J. Bentley told the Court that defendant was arrested in Queen's Road East with a dagger.

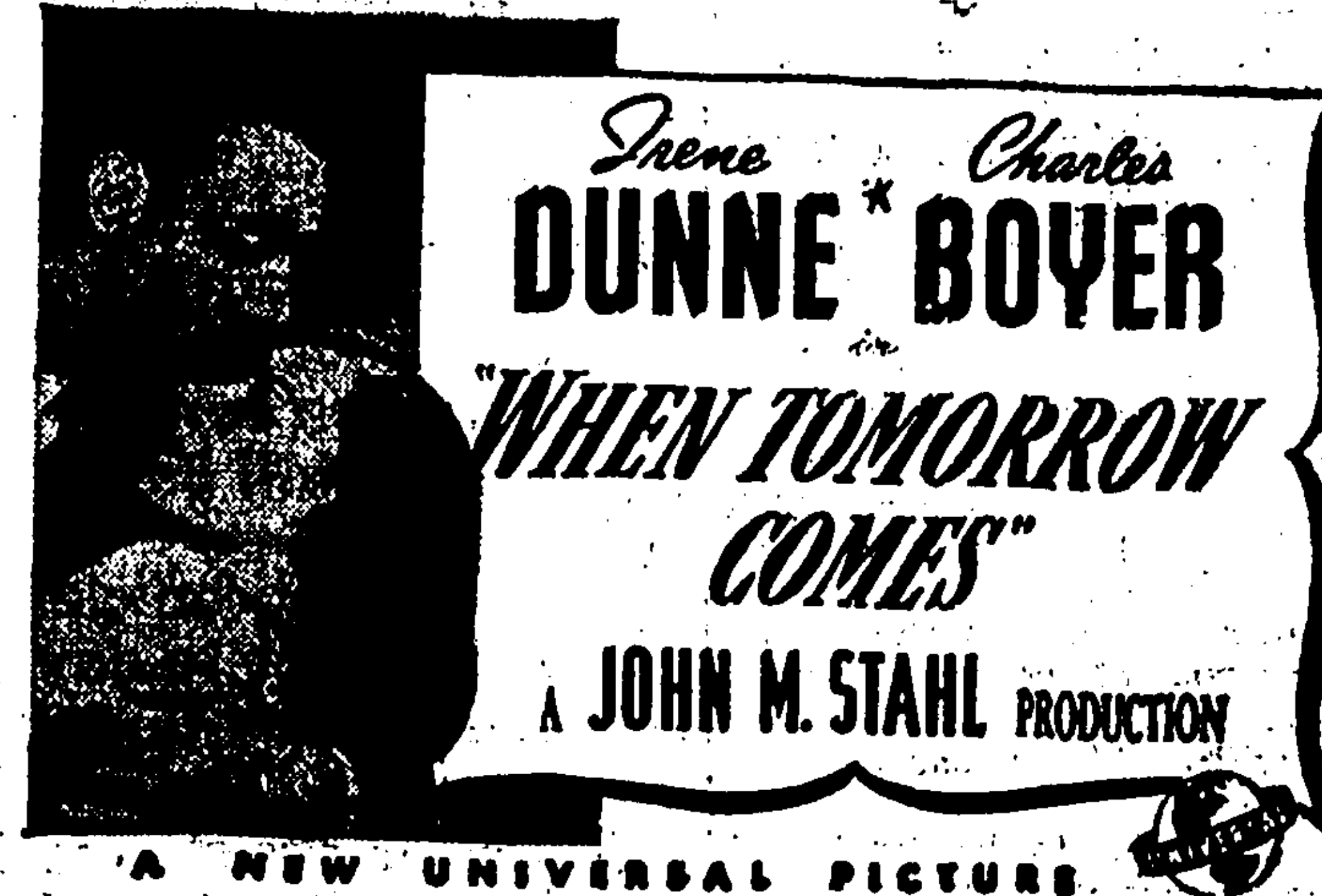
Sentence of six months' hard labour was imposed.

Miss Rose Lau, patient at the Queen Mary Hospital, has reported the loss of a wrist watch from her pyjama pocket, in the bathroom yesterday.

QUEEN'S

DAILY AT 2.30-5.15-7.20 & 9.30-TEL. 31453

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3 SHOWS AT 2.30, 5.15 & 7.20 P.M. ONLY



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All Proceeds will be donated to B.W.O. Fund.

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"MAISIE" with ROBERT YOUNG
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A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

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TO-MORROW • George Raft • Claire Trevor
"I STOLE A MILLION"

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A PICTURE WE KNOW YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!



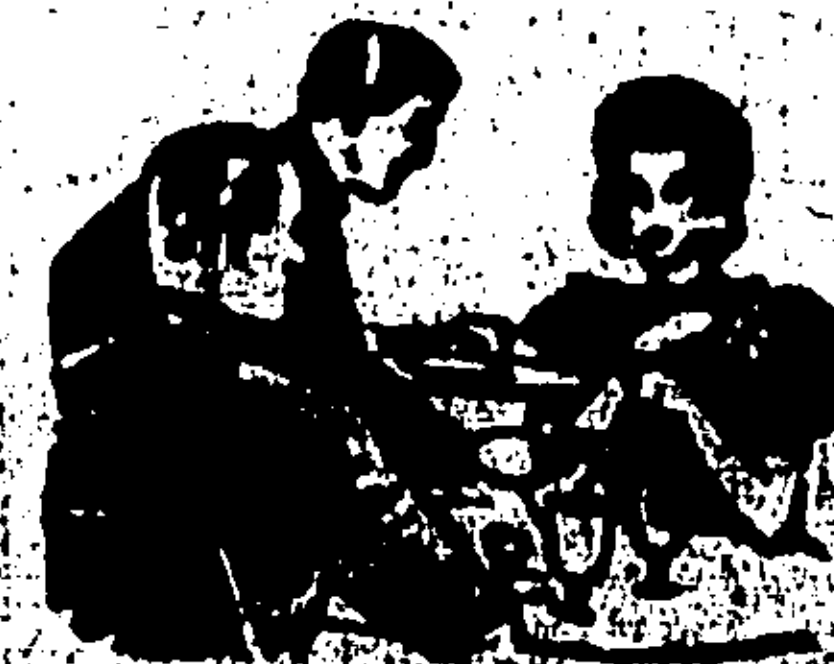
* TO-MORROW — FRIDAY — SATURDAY *
Continents torn apart . . . The black simoon
conquered . . . that ships might sail the desert!
The blazing romance of the man whose daring
genius built the Suez Canal!

AMAZING!



TO-NIGHT'S DINNER

Consomme Windsor
Poached Garoupa, Vin Blanc
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Rissola Potatoes
Cabbage
Victoria Pudding
Tea or Coffee



ST. FRANCIS
QUEEN

SERIOUS MISGIVINGS

League Of Nations In No Position For Action

HITLER'S KULTUR AT WORK

New York, To-day.
An American correspondent has given a tragic picture of Warsaw to-day.

Some 75 per cent of the buildings are either completely destroyed or damaged by the relentless bombings. The walls of some buildings are now being pulled down and those still fit for human habitation add to the ghost-like appearance of the city because their windows are all boarded up or patched with glass from picture frames.

There is rubbish in the streets and the pavements have been torn up in places. In wet weather, even walking in the streets is difficult.

There are long queues waiting outside the various offices giving permission for this or that, for life in Warsaw to-day is "By Permission" only.

Prices have gone up three to six times and only a short while ago a loaf of bread cost 8 shillings.

Curfew is at 7 p.m., after which hour only Nazi soldiers may be seen on the darkened streets.—Reuter.

WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that a strong anticyclone covers China, Japan and the neighbouring seas. Pressure remains relatively low over the Mariana and Caroline Islands.

ONLY TWO GREAT POWERS LEFT—THOSE AT WAR

London, To-day.

THE BRITISH PRESS is principally taken up with the League Assembly at Geneva. While the justice of Finland's appeal is fully recognised there are serious misgivings as to whether the League will be able to take effective action.

The "News Chronicle" stresses the fact that Britain and France to-day are the only two great powers at Geneva—and they are fully engaged in a major war. The smaller nations could expect no similar assistance if they got into trouble over the application of sanctions.

Many of the smaller nations, too, are primarily concerned with maintaining their own neutrality.

The "Daily Telegraph" feels that there could hardly be a less favourable time for the exercise of the League's authority. But the root of the trouble lies not in Moscow but in Berlin. Sever that root and the offshoots will weaken.

The Allies are doing the world's work and will be wise if they do not allow any resolution which the League in its righteous indignation may pass to deflect them from their main purpose.

CULTURE IN WAR

On Home topics, the "Daily Herald" welcomes the work of the Arts and Entertainment Emergency Council, which will endeavour to keep going those connected with the various arts and entertainments. Art and education are not luxuries, says the paper; they are necessities, precious possessions which give meaning to our lives and to the cause in which we are fighting. The "Daily Express" wants shopping hours extended and more light during the blackouts; while the "Daily Mail" welcomes the scheme to make British documentary films as "at last" a systematic plan to counter Nazi screen propaganda.—Reuter.

IT'S ONLY A RUMOUR

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Amsterdam, To-day.

Arrivals from Germany report that the Gestapo is circulating a rumour that a new device has been invented permitting the detection of radio receiving sets listening to any specified station.

The rumour was evidently spread in an effort to prevent Germans tuning in to foreign broadcasts.

It is recalled that the penalty of death was instituted for this crime.—Havas.

HOLD-UP IN POKFULAM

Three robbers, one armed with a dagger, held up a pedestrian on a path leading to the Queen Mary Hospital shortly after noon to-day. The victim was reported to have been robbed of a gold wrist watch and a gold chain.

DEADLOCK IN MEXICAN OIL DISPUTE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

WASHINGTON, TO-DAY.

STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS STATED THAT THE PETROLEUM DISPUTE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

It is admitted that the negotiations between the Mexican authorities and the American oil concerns have reached a deadlock.

A unilateral evaluation of expropriated property will be undertaken by Mexican experts within 60 days if the American oil companies do not send experts to Mexico City before midnight to-night.

"ALI BABA" PANTOMIME

Music and dancing are prominent in this year's Y.M.C.A. Pantomime, "Ali Baba."

The forty odd musical number range from classical ballet music to the "Palais Stroll,"—not to be confused with its predecessor the "Palais Glide."

Another feature which should be to the liking of the audiences is the chorus dancing, for which Miss Daisy O'Keefe has been responsible. The chief item, apart from the children's dances, is the Wine Jar Ballet. This is set in the Robbers' Cave, but how the lovely ladies get into the Wine Jars, and why, remains a mystery. But pantomime is pantomime, and inasmuch as they look very charming in very pretty dresses, and dance very nicely, we feel the audiences ought to be satisfied.

WEDDING AT CATHEDRAL

At 3 o'clock this afternoon, St John's Cathedral, Garden Road, was the scene of the wedding of Clara S. C. Young, elder daughter of Mr. C. N. Young, and John H. L. Kwee, third son of Mr. T. M. Kwee.

The Misses Cheong, Angelina To and Chai Yik King were bridesmaids, while Sylvia Go acted as flower girl and Gloria Go as page boy. There was a very large attendance of relatives and friends.

Subsequently, a reception was held in the Roof Garden of the Hong Kong Hotel.

THREAT LIFTED?

Macao, To-day.
The Japanese troops who landed at Shiu Wan on the 12th, with drawn Japanese aircraft, have still been cruising along the coast of the island. It is said that they have appeared over Chungshan for almost a week now.—Our Own Correspondent.

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RUSSIA FLATLY REJECTS LEAGUE MEDIATION

Geneva, To-day.
MOSCOW IS BEING GIVEN until 10 a.m. to-day (Wednesday) to reply to the League of Nations telegram suggesting an immediate cessation of hostilities in Finland and peace negotiations under League auspices.

Reason for the extension of the original 24-hour time limit is uncertainty about the time of receipt of the League's telegram in Moscow.

While waiting for Moscow's reply the committee of fourteen has completed its report on the Finnish-Soviet dispute.

The report falls in three parts. The first is a historical review, the second cites the laws and treaties involved and the third discusses the juridical conclusion to be drawn. The committee will meet this afternoon to decide what recommendations to add to the report. — Reuter.

FINLAND'S ACCEPTANCE

London, To-day.
Although only a few hours remain before the appeal to Russia for a peaceful settlement expires, no reply is reported from Geneva.

A telegram was sent to Moscow and Helsinki at 7 p.m. G.M.T. on Tuesday (3 a.m. Wednesday Hong Kong time) requesting a reply within 24 hours. The note to Moscow added that Finland had accepted. — Reuter.

MOSCOW SILENT

Moscow, To-day.
Soviet officials here refuse to dis-

cuss the League's appeal and neither the Soviet press or wireless give the slightest hint of the proceedings at Geneva. — Reuter.

FLAT RUSSIAN REJECTION

London, To-day.
According to the Paris radio the Russian reply has been received at Geneva, soon after the expiry of the original time limit.

It flatly rejects the League's appeal for a cessation of hostilities against Finland and the offer of League mediation.

SANCTIONS NOT EXPECTED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.
Political circles do not expect the League of Nations to vote Sanctions against the Soviet, but merely to move a resolution condemning Soviet aggression. — Havas.

BALLOON BARRAGE ACCIDENT

London, To-day.
It is officially announced that a Fleet Air Arm aircraft collided with a balloon barrage cable near Southampton yesterday.

The crew of four were killed. — Reuter.

CHINESE INTERNEE ESCAPES

Another Chinese soldier got away safely from the Matauchung Internment Camp early this morning. Search parties were out at 3.50 a.m. but could find no trace of the missing man, Chen Chi-cho, aged 23.

A homemade ladder of bamboo poles, some 16 feet long, was found placed against the barbed wire on the north side of the camp, and this is believed to have been the means whereby Chen made his escape.

Near the spot is an empty hut, and in it a blanket was found; it was still warm. It is thought that Chen hid in the hut until the early hours of the morning, when he made his escape.

SOVIET CASUALTIES IN FINLAND

Helsinki, To-day.
An official announcement states that so far three out of four Soviet casualties have been caused by cold and exposure. — Reuter.

ADMIRALTY "BREMEN" DISCLOSURE

London, To-day.

The Admiralty announced yesterday afternoon that British respect for international law had saved the giant German liner Bremen, which has stolen through the British blockade.

The Bremen, it will be recalled, left New York three days before war was declared and managed to get safely through to the Soviet Arctic port of Murmansk, since when nothing has been heard of her.

Yesterday, however, the Admiralty announced that a British submarine had sighted her, homeward bound. The Bremen passed within torpedo range, but the submarine was prevented by international law from torpedoing her without warning.

The Bremen, it is learned, was sighted yesterday morning.

International law forbids the sinking of merchantships unless all people on board can first be placed in a place of safety, and open boats in an open sea are not places of safety. The submarine, obviously, could not take all those in the Bremen on board.

The submarine also could not capture the Bremen, which has a far higher turn of speed. — Reuter.

BERLIN ANNOUNCEMENT

Berlin, To-day.
It is announced that the giant German liner, Bremen, has safely reached a German port.

The Bremen, which fled from New York just before the outbreak of war, reached the north Russian port of Murmansk where she had been ever since. — Reuter.

OFF THE RECORD



"Checking out, Sir?"

Here's Luck

EWO BEER

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expects to see his little one cheerful and robust, enjoying life to the full. That is the condition all young children should be in, for in the early years foundations are laid for future health and happiness.

If your child is weak and ailing you should know that the majority of childhood's aches and ills originate in the stomach and bowels, and it is because of their outstanding efficacy as a corrective of these that Baby's Own Tablets enjoy such wide esteem. To dispel infantile constipation, correct indigestion, colic, 'wind,' cool feverishness, aid and ease teething, check diarrhoea, relieve cramp and colds, expel worms, there is nothing better.

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"GF" Allsteel office furniture and filing cabinets.

Todd Checkwriters.

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Owing to the layout and facilities of the new premises we anticipate offering our customers better service than in the past.

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MOSCOW'S VERSION OF PROGRESS OF OPERATIONS IN FINLAND "IN NO HURRY"

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Moscow, To-day.

The official communique claims that the Red Army has advanced into Finland in all directions, including the sector north of Lake Ladoga, where they have occupied the city of Pilkaranta, terminus of the Serdobol railway, as well as the villages of Suprola and Muunola, near Viborg. Political circles state the Finns are able to resist strongly in the Karelian Isthmus, where they have strong fortifications, but their position is much weaker along the immense eastern frontier, where the Soviets are attacking in five directions, aiming to isolate Finland from Sweden.

It is added that the Soviet Polar air force is able to fulfil the most arduous tasks.

It is rumoured that important Soviet concentrations are massed in the region of Kirovsk, in the Kola Peninsula, probably preparatory to a big offensive aiming at cutting off Sweden from Norway.

Meanwhile, foreign observers point out that the Soviets are only approaching certain points in the Finnish main defence line, and are still far from Viborg and Karisalmi, the two key cities in the Karelian Isthmus.

Soviet circles state the reason for the slow advance is the Red Army's wish to give the Kremlin-controlled "popular" army a chance to "reconquer" Finland.—Havas.

ARMY RUSHED IN WITHOUT ADEQUATE PREPARATIONS

Moscow, To-day.

Yesterday's Soviet war communique was again brief.

It reports progress north of Lake Ladoga, but the bottleneck between the north shore of Lake Ladoga and the chain of small lakes where the Finns have three prepared defensive lines is still not penetrated.

The Russian troops are apparently still held up upon the Karelian Isthmus.

Observers in Moscow suspect that the Red Army attempted to rush deep into the Finnish defences without adequate artillery preparation.—Reuter.

BRITISH MOTORSHIP SINKS

London, To-day.

The motor-vessel King Egbert sank in the North Sea after an explosion early yesterday.

One member of the crew is believed to have been drowned, and the remaining 32 crew and the pilot took to the boats, being picked up by a neutral ship which later transferred them to an East Coast lifeboat.—Reuter.

The King Egbert was a vessel of 4,535 tons. She was built in 1928 for the King Line, Ltd., of London.

THEFT OF IRON BARS

Mr. J. W. Barker, of the China Light and Power Company, this morning prosecuted two Chinese for stealing two iron bars.

The bars, used for power posts, were in an alley outside the Company's works. Accused were caught with the bars by an Indian constable.

Pleading guilty, Chan Wing, 23, was sentenced to one month's hard labour, and Ho Chuen, 26, who had two previous convictions, was given two months.

BLACK-OUT ROAD TOLL

London, To-day.

The increase in road fatalities due to the black-out, which appeared in the September and October returns, is again a feature of the November returns.

A total of 926 persons were killed in or died as a result of road accidents, against 613 in November, 1938.

Of the total, 674 relate to accidents during the hours of darkness.—British Wireless.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

New York, To-day.

President Roosevelt told the press yesterday that the American Red Cross is spending over U.S.\$500,000 for European relief.

Of this sum \$25,000 has been sent to Finland and \$16,000 has been applied for the purchase of medicines in London for Finland.—Reuter.

BURGLARY IN STUBBS ROAD

Mr. N. S. Merritt, of 499 Stubbs Road, has reported to the police that at 2 a.m. to-day a burglar gained entry into the house, and stole jewellery and money to the value of £70 sterling and Hong Kong \$50.

CIVIL SERVICE XMAS PARTY

The Civil Service Cricket Club is holding its annual Prize-giving and Children's Christmas Sports on December 26th for members and their children. Tea at 4.00 p.m. and presentation of prizes at 5 p.m.

SANYO MARU "TEST" CASE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Amsterdam, To-day.

The Japanese steamer, Sanyo Maru, carrying German goods, will be permitted to pass through the Allied blockade following negotiations at present going on between the Japanese and British authorities, since the goods carried by the Sanyo Maru were purchased before November 27.

The authorities denied that the Japanese intended to use the Sanyo Maru as a "test" of the Allied determination to enforce the blockade of German exports.—Havas.

EXCHEQUER RETURNS SHOW RISE

London, To-day.

Exchequer returns show that total ordinary revenue amounts to £274,898,000 compared with £237,986,000 at the corresponding date last year.

Total expenditure, less self-balancing items, is £781,789,472 compared with £695,132,858 a year ago.

The Floating Debt outstanding on December 9 was £1,472,975,000 a net increase of £552,665,000 since the beginning of the financial year and against £1,018,000,000 at the corresponding date of 1938.—British Wireless.

URUGUAY TO STAY IN LEAGUE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Montevideo, To-day.

By 39 votes against 21 the Chamber of Deputies yesterday decided that Uruguay remain in the League of Nations in spite of the Senate's recent motion recommending withdrawal.—Havas.

FISH THEFT CHARGE

An Indian Police Sergeant, Mangha Khan, 39, (L.S.B.399), attached to Central Police Station, was this morning charged before Mr. E. Himsforth at Kowloon with the theft of fish. Sub-Inspector R. Cunningham asked for a remand, and defendant was released on \$100 bail.

He was alleged to have stolen four fish from Ng Fu, a fish dealer, at Tai O on Saturday.

PRIME MINISTER AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

London, To-day.

The Prime Minister was received in audience by the King at Buckingham Palace last evening.—British Wireless.

Four diphtheria cases, one of typhoid and 23 of tuberculosis were reported to the Medical Department yesterday.



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Centre Of Gravity Shifts In Finland Fighting

FINNS PLANNING COUNTER-STROKE IN THE NORTH

Helsinki, To-day.

THE FINNS ARE HASTILY strengthening their defence lines and are also understood to be planning a counter-stroke by pouring very heavy reinforcements into the Petsamo front.

The object of this, according to neutral observers, is partly to divert the force of the Russian attack and partly to threaten the Murmansk railway.

At present there is little indication of when this offensive will be made.

One theory is that to-day being a Russian holiday, it may be zero hour as well.

Some circles think the Red Army will wait until the ice on the lakes is thick enough to bear tanks and mechanised transport.

THIRD-RATERS

Finnish observers are gradually coming to the conclusion that the Russians at present have only third-rate soldiers in the field.

It is thought that the Moscow commanders, finding they greatly under-estimated the strength of the Finnish resistance, have now decided to bring up their first-class reserves.

Meanwhile the centre of gravity of the fighting has suddenly shifted from the Karelian Isthmus to the centre of Finland, where the Russians are trying to drive a wedge and split the country in half.

HEAVY FIGHTING

Very heavy fighting is proceeding on the whole front around the pleasure resort of Suomussalmi and further north near Kuolajaervi.

The Russians are reported to have a very large force here and the Finns are rushing up reinforcements.

It is unofficially reported that Finnish planes yesterday bombed and destroyed 12 miles of railway on the outskirts of Murmansk.—Reuter.

SEVERE FIGHTING

London, To-day.

A Finnish communique says there has been severe fighting along the whole line in the Karelian Isthmus, the battle being especially fierce at Muola village.

The enemy made several attacks, all of which were repulsed, and the Reds left hundreds of dead in front of our lines. Several enemy tanks were destroyed.

The enemy made several attempts to break through the eastern frontier and a great battle was fought at Tolvakaeri.

Our troops captured 52 machine-guns and other war material.

THREE BATTALIONS ANNIHILATED

Three battalions of enemy infantry were annihilated, and several tanks put out of action.

Enemy attacks at Llimola, supported by heavy artillery, were repulsed. Fighting continues in the northern sector of the eastern front.

Enemy planes bombed Hyrnsalmi Island, in the Gulf of Finland, without result.

Our air force bombed and machine-gunned the enemy lines and marching columns of troops.—Reuter.

PILKARANTA ABANDONED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")
HELSINKI, TO-DAY.
THE OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE SAYS THE FINNS PUT UP A STRONG RESISTANCE TO OVERWHELMING SOVIET FORCES.

In the sector north of Lake Ladoga the Finns have abandoned Pilkaranta. In the Ilomantsi sector Finnish surprise counter-attacks annihilated three Soviet companies.

In the Karelian Isthmus the Finns are stiffly resisting in front of their fortification lines.

The situation is unchanged around Petsamo.—Havas.

SOVIET AIR BASE DESTROYED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

VIIPURI, TO-DAY.

IT IS REPORTED THAT THE FINNISH AIR FORCE DESTROYED THE SOVIET AIR BASE AT MURMANSK.

Meanwhile, the Russian advance in the Karelian Isthmus is meeting with ever increasing difficulties due to snowfalls and also to innumerable Finnish traps.

Nevertheless, the Russians are resorting to massive attacks in close formations which are being decimated by Finnish machine-guns.

White-clad Finns, hiding behind trees, disabled many Soviet tanks on which they threw flaming petrol.—Havas.

ROME'S KEEN INTEREST

Rome, To-day.

Rome circles are following the fighting in Finland with great interest.

It is stated here that the Soviet attacks have been extended over the whole eastern frontier and fighting has been very violent during the past 24 hours.—Reuter.

SUBMARINE IMPERILLED

Washington, To-day.

The U.S. submarine, Sea Dragon, sister-ship of the ill-fated Squalus, has had to put back to her base with her electrical equipment partly flooded, due to circumstances apparently similar to the cause of the Squalus disaster.—Reuter.

SWEDEN CONTINUES TO PREPARE FOR SQUALLS

Stockholm, To-day.

Sweden continues to take precautionary measures, and the Government yesterday ordered its first batch of half a million gas-masks.—Reuter.

NAZIS IN TRAINING IN HOLLAND

The Hague, To-day.

The Hague police have arrested 27 members of the Dutch Nazi Party.

They were carrying out military training in an underground room and when caught were singing the Nazi "Horst Wessel" song.—Reuter.

RED AGITATION IN SWEDEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Zurich, To-day.

An increase of Communist agitation in Sweden, especially in the districts near the Finnish border, is reported by the Stockholm correspondent of the "Neue Zuercher Zeitung."

The correspondent adds that Swedish Communists openly state they will side at once with the Soviets should the Swedish tension increase.

The Swedish population is indignant.—Havas.

U.S. AND FINLAND

RISING TIDE OF FEELING

NEW YORK, TO-DAY.

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES AGAINST SOVIET RUSSIA IS RISING. THOUSANDS ARE ATTENDING MASS MEETINGS OF PROTEST AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE POURING INTO THE FINNISH FUND WHICH IS UNDER THE AEGIS OF HERBERT HOOVER, FORMER PRESIDENT.

Typical of press comment is that of the "New York Times," which says that the real question is not how many eloquent resolutions will be passed praising Finland and condemning Russia, but how many guns the Finns can acquire. Finland needs aeroplanes and ammunition.

The fighting there is not a war within the meaning of the present Neutrality Act and the United States is not barred under the Johnson Act, which forbids loans to countries defaulting their war debts, from making loans to Finland.

The United States hopes that ways can be found to give prompt aid where it is most needed.—Reuter.

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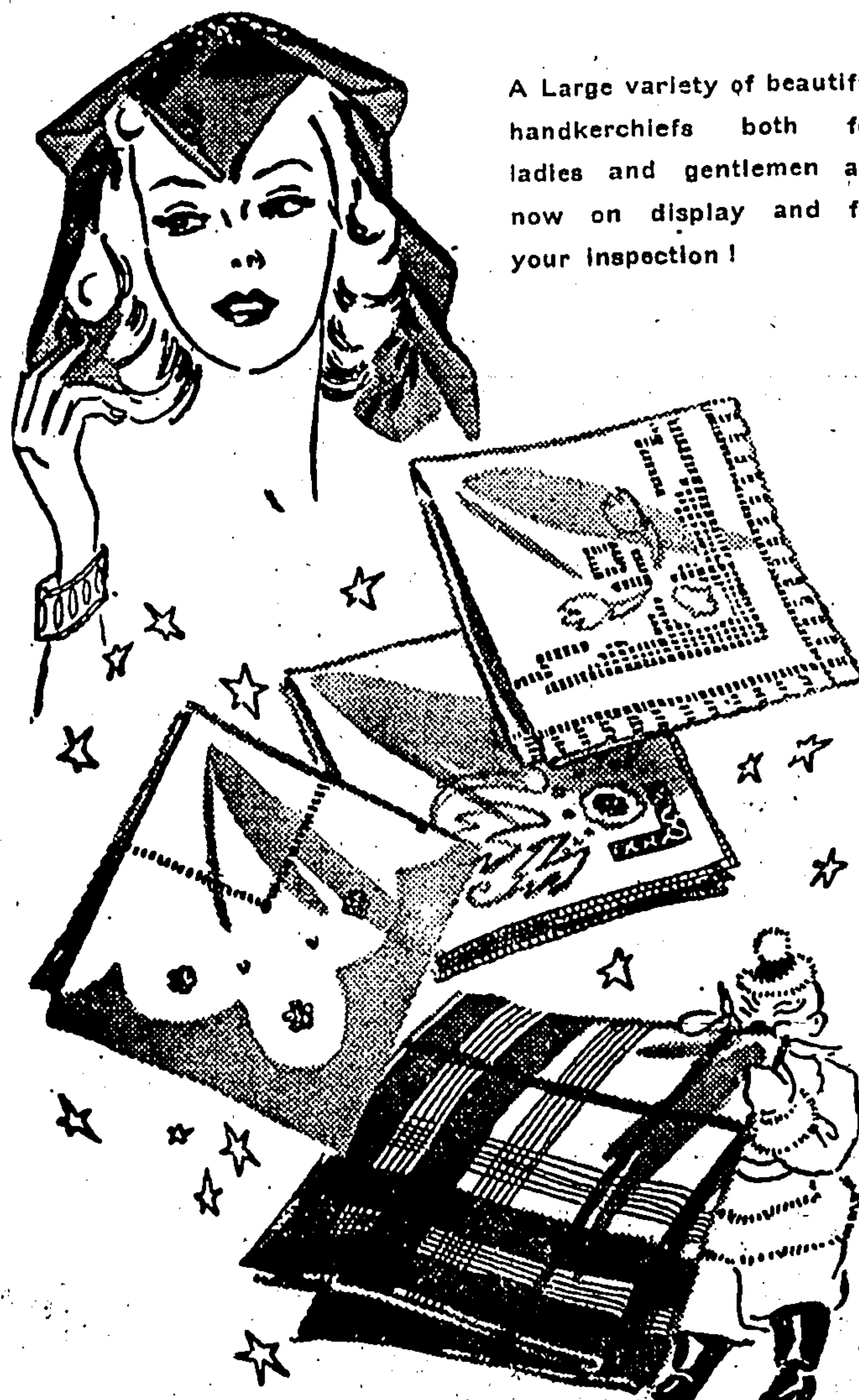
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MIRROR OF WORLD OPINION

TOO GOOD TO BE LOST

When the country's energies are concentrated on making war, then is the time to care about the permanent needs—that is to say, the peace needs—of the country. Hence the necessity to watch over the education of the young, the protection of the weak, the treatment of the defective and the dangerous elements in society, the maintenance of tolerable conditions of life, and the liberties of the people. The more any of these is endangered by the making of war, and all of them are inevitably endangered, the more we must stick to them. If we profess to be fighting for civilisation, then we should make sure that the civilisation is not impaired or tarnished by ourselves in the effort. The needs of the war tend to be, but ought not to be allowed to be, all engrossing.—"Manchester Guardian."

OUR WAR AIMS

The people know what they are fighting for. They seek to rid the world, including Germany, of the curse of Hitlerism. They desire to release stricken Poles and Czechs from the yoke of aggression and to free mankind from the threat of aggression. They insist that all disputes between nations—including the dispute which has precipitated the present conflict—shall be submitted for settlement to the arbitrament of law and third-party judgment. This three-fold cause, and no other, is the cause the people will "fight to a finish." They will not permit their sacrifice to rot in another vindictive Versailles. Having learned the lesson of past wars they will not tolerate the exhaustion of morale and spirit which, when conflict ceases, leaves the people of all nations helpless victims of power-politicians. When Nazism ends, this war ends, and the building of peace begins.—"Reynolds News," London.

THE ECHO IN ASIA

It is impossible to escape the conclusion that Russian stock has taken a tumble in China in the last week. Events of the last few months had been forcing China closer and closer to Russia, regardless of several points of distaste on the part of the Chinese. The urgent need for assistance in the war against Japanese invasion compelled the Chinese to assume a more receptive attitude toward Soviet co-operation than would have been thinkable under most any other circumstances. But now Russia has launched her own campaign of conquest, is doing much the same sort of thing that China bitterly condemns from Japan. So it is difficult to see how China can be indifferent or tolerant, even to the extent of accepting what help may be offered. Furthermore the current turn of events renders less probable the continuing offer of help. All this is, at least for the present, to the advantage of Japan's position.—"Manila Bulletin."

EDITORIAL BY AESOP

Once upon a time, long before Hitler was ever dreamed of, a woodman went into a forest to ask the trees to give him a handle for his axe. "It seemed so modest a request," according to Aesop, "that the principal trees agreed to it, and it was settled among them that the plain, homely Ash should furnish what was wanted. No sooner had the wood-

man fitted the staff to his purpose than he began laying about him on all sides, felling the noblest trees in the wood.

"The Oak, now seeing the whole matter too late, whispered to the Cedar: 'The first concession has been lost; if we had not sacrificed our humble neighbour, we might have yet stood for ages ourselves.'"—"Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser."

CRUSADE

It is believed that, apart from those chauvinists who have remained in power all too long, the masses of the German people are just as desirous of peace as those nations which are at present fighting them. They can only achieve that when the present leaders of Germany have been driven from power, and an opportunity given to German moderates to rebuild their country along lines, which will make it possible for the rest of Europe to live in amity with them. The hideous system which Herr Hitler and his accomplices has created must be destroyed, and the common decencies of international life restored. It is for that that the Allies are fighting, and to call it a crusade is to describe it, by the only term possible.—"North China Daily News."

CHECKING TERRORISM

The method of aggression is always the same—the atrocity campaign, the ultimatum, the assertion that it has been rejected before there has been time to read it, the bombing, the troops on the march. Serbia in 1914, Austria in 1937, Czechoslovakia in 1938, Poland in 1939 are all instances of the classic German way of picking a quarrel. The outside world has never been in a doubt about it, and least of all at this moment. Germany brands herself as the aggressor, and, since Italy is taking no initiative, she stands alone, except in so far as she may have the promise of secret support from Russia. British and French action is predetermined in such a situation, and there is not the slightest doubt about it.

We have no need to define our war-aims. They are all summed up in the supreme one of creating an international order in which men and women may pursue the life of peace without fear. Let us hold to that, and firmly resolve that it shall not be perverted by any of the trials and afflictions that await us.—London—"Sunday Times."

THE NAKED TRUTH

"There is no need for us to counter lies with lies. We know that truth will always come out on top. We give nothing but the naked truth. I am not afraid to make use of propaganda, and of tendentious propaganda."—Nazi Propaganda Minister Goebbels.

THE DANGER

Finland alone cannot possibly offer resistance such as is required to deal effectively with a Russian invasion. And under prevailing European conditions it is hard to see prospects of the needed help.

Every practical consideration argues for a friendly attitude on the part of the Scandinavian neighbours to the west, but more than friendly attitude is the urgent need of the occasion. Idealistic sympathies on the score of basic right and practical friendship on the score of community of interests notwithstanding, Norway and Sweden cannot be expected to rush to the aid of the invaded neighbour and ally. One of the numerous practical points to be considered in this connection is the question whether a solid front, by the Baltic states might not tend to force Russia and Germany into a closer military alliance than they yet have worked out for themselves or indicated to be in immediate prospect.—"Manila Bulletin."

NEW PHASE IN THE WAR IN THE AIR

London, To-day.

THE AIR MINISTER, in his first statement on the war since October 10, said a new phase in air warfare began on October 16 with the raid on a warship in the Firth of Forth by enemy aircraft.

Since that date, Sir Kingsley Wood said, though there had been no great air battles, there had been steadily increasing activity.

"We have had to deal with a series of reconnaissances and raids, some by single aircraft and some in force, and we have been able to test out the strength of our defences and the efficiency of our organisation.

We have also been able to try out, both in Britain and France, our aircraft in combat with the enemy.

The results and conclusions which we have been able to draw from them, though of necessity provisional, are certainly encouraging.

We have been able to satisfy ourselves by actual operations that the various elements of our air defences, anti-aircraft guns and searchlights, fighter squadrons, balloon barrages for close defence and units of the Observer Corps, have been successfully welded into an efficient and adaptable system under the operation control and command of one commander in chief."

UNIFIED CONTROL

Sir Kingsley Wood expressed great satisfaction with the results of this system of unified control, and went on to say that this new phase of the air war "may be drawing to a close and we must be prepared to face soon, perhaps in the Spring, another and more strenuous and difficult chapter."

Sir Kingsley Wood said patrol duties were more far-reaching than either attacking submarines or defending against air attack. Many ships owed their safety to units of this Command.

HELIGOLAND RAID

Turning to the Bomber Command, Sir Kingsley Wood spoke of the recent raid on Heligoland, which he described as a particularly difficult and dangerous operation.

Not only did our aircraft successfully reach the objectives and score direct hits with heavy bombs but all returned safely, having been attacked by 20 Messerschmidts, two of which pressed the attack being brought down.

In reconnaissance flights the R.A.F. had visited Hamburg, Bremen, the Ruhr, Berlin, Munich and Nurnburg, in many cases more than once.

R.A.F. prestige was very high and it was no surprise that nearly a third of the men registering for service expressed a preference for the air force.

The Minister referred to the Empire personnel and units which would soon be taking their place in the front line of air defence, and announced the re-establishment of police squadrons which, under their own officers, would be attached to the R.A.F.

NEW TYPES

Turning to production, Sir Kingsley Wood said that though the numerical output was more than twice that of a year ago, the types in efficiency as war weapons represent "not a twofold but a manifold accretion of strength," and new and more powerful types would shortly operate against the enemy.

In reply to a question the Minister said he had given careful consideration to the question of German flights over the Shetlands and Orkneys, and he hoped "next time we had a visit very favourable results would ensue."

The Minister concluded: "We can be confident that our air defence system is sound. The strength of the defensive and offensive is growing steadily, so every day we are in a better position to establish ascendancy in the air."—British Wireless.

a gross breach of privilege rendering himself liable to such penalties as are within the power of the House to inflict by reprimand, commitment to prison or, in an extreme case, expulsion from the House. —British Wireless.

BRITISH AIR FORCE SUPREMACY

London, To-day.

In a statement in the House yesterday, Sir Kingsley Wood, the Air Minister, said that to-day we can justifiably claim the definite superiority of our planes over the German machines.

Our Hurricane and Spitfire fighters have been in contact with Dornier, Junker and Heinkel bombers in turn and there could be no doubt they possessed a decisive superiority.

Even more encouraging was the fact that they had encountered Nazi fighter planes. They had twice the gunfire of the Messerschmidts and better flying characteristics, control and manoeuvrability at high speeds.

Furthermore, we have new and more powerful types which have already taken to the air and will shortly be in operation against the enemy.

Sir Kingsley said the fighter squadrons, both regular and auxiliary, had taken a heavy toll of such of the enemy as had tried to cross our air defences.

The Coastal Command had tried out attacks on submarines on 57 occasions, and in 19 cases they were sure substantial damage had been caused. —Reuter.

"BRITAIN NOW HAS MOST POWERFUL AIR FORCE IN THE WORLD"

London, To-day.

Mr. Leslie Burgin, Minister of Supply, speaking during a visit to a munitions works yesterday, said at no time had the might of the British Empire been greater, or its fighting forces better and more adequately equipped.

From September 3 to December 5 the Ministry of Supply had placed new orders amounting to £208,000,000.

Britain now had the most powerful air force in the world, Mr. Burgin added. —Reuter.

SECRECY OF TO-DAY'S DEBATE

LONDON, TO-DAY.

THE SECRET SESSION OF THE COMMONS WHICH IS TO BE HELD TO-DAY RAISED A POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGE WHEN THE LIBERAL MEMBER, MR. DINGLE FOOT, ASKED THE SPEAKER WHETHER IT WAS A FACT THAT ANY MEMBER WHO REPEATED OUTSIDE, EVEN IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION, ANYTHING SAID IN THE HOUSE DURING THE SECRET SESSION WOULD BE GUILTY OF A BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

In reply, citing authorities, the Speaker said a member who so acted would be wilfully disobeying an order of the House and thereby committing

BRITAIN'S TASK

—London, To-day.

Nothing could be more foolish than to underestimate the task Britain has undertaken, declared Mr. Anthony Eden, the Dominions Secretary, addressing the Canadian Club luncheon in London yesterday.

Mr. Eden added: "I don't believe that at any time in history have we had more serious difficulties to overcome, but if that is true it is no less true that in the unity of the nations of the British Commonwealth is the final guarantee of victory." —Reuter.

FACTS ABOUT THE NAVAL WAR

London, To-day.

The increasing completeness of British naval supremacy is shown in a special commentary on the war.

Total losses on the British side to date are:

The battleship Royal Oak;
The aircraft-carrier Courageous;
Two destroyers—Gypsy and Blanche;
and

One submarine, totalling 55,649 tons.

Auxiliary vessels lost are:
The Rawalpindi and four small minesweepers, amounting to 18,396 tons gross.

These are amply compensated by the enormous naval construction programme which has been further increased since the outbreak—nearly one million tons of warships are under construction, and many vessels are nearly completed.

The anti-submarine forces have already been more than trebled.

GERMAN BOAST

German anxiety as a result of these facts is indicated by the recent boast

CHANNEL TUNNEL SCHEME

Paris, To-day.

The Channel Tunnel scheme has been revived, this time in the French Chamber of Deputies.

The Minister of Public Works described the construction of the tunnel as an international necessity which should be one of the first works undertaken when the war is over.

The idea first came up about the middle of the last century, and even to-day abandoned preliminary tunnels may be seen on either side of the Channel.

The Minister also announced that the Government has decided to take in hand the construction of the first section of a trans-Sahara tunnel. —Reuter.

that the German Navy has been strongly reinforced by the incorporation of the Austrian Danube Flotilla.

The Germans have no better topic for boasting about than the addition of river patrol vessels and a few motor launches designed solely for river work. —Reuter.

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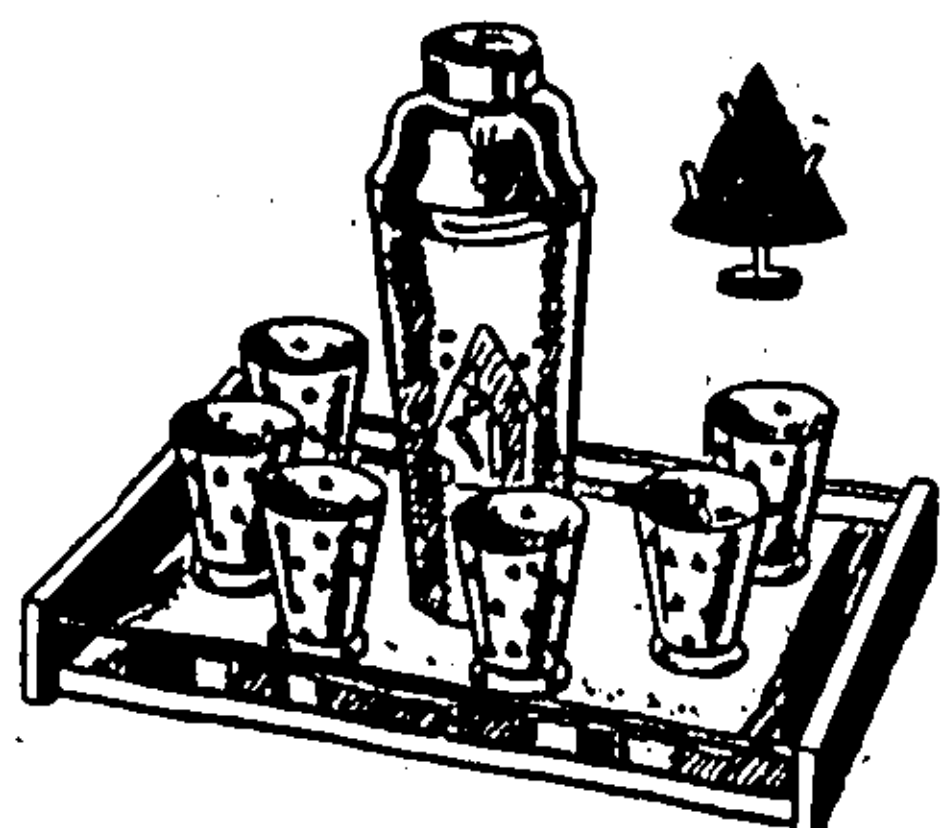
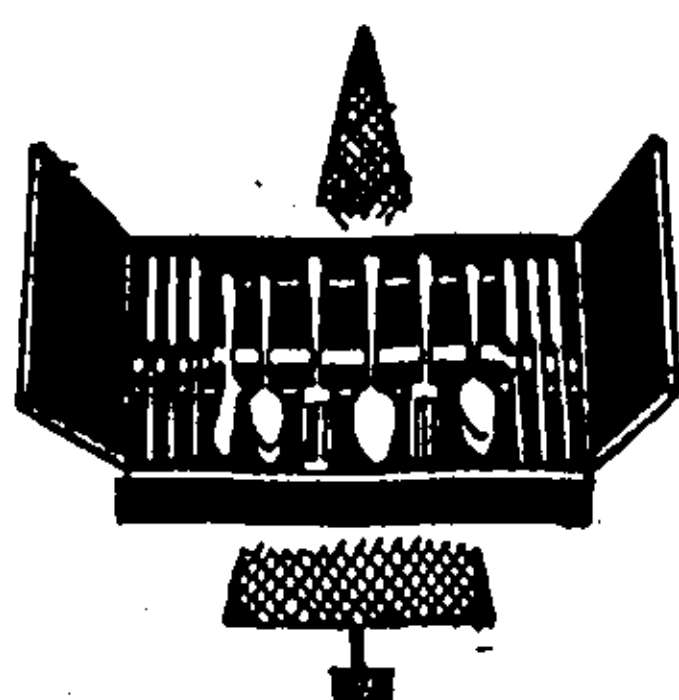
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ALLIED FINANCE "POOLING" AGREEMENT

London, To-day.

THE CHANCELLOR of the Exchequer in the Commons said that as a result of his recent conversations with the French Minister of Finance, a comprehensive agreement had been arrived at between the British and French Treasuries which will secure in the field of finance co-operation which corresponds to that already announced at the last meeting of the Supreme War Council in other fields of activity.

Sir John Simon summarised some of the main features of the agreement, wherein it was agreed it was to the common interest to avoid during the war alterations in the existing rate of exchange between the pound and the franc.

"We further made mutual arrangements which will enable each country to cover its requirements for currency of the other country."

"Sterling held by the French monetary authorities will be available for expenditure throughout the Sterling area, and francs held by the United Kingdom monetary authorities available for expenditure throughout the French Empire."

Neither Government would raise a foreign loan or credit except in agreement with or jointly with the other.

SHARING COSTS

Neither Government would impose fresh restrictions on imports from the other country during the war for protective purposes or for exchange reasons.

The two Governments would share certain items of expenditure incurred in the common cause, such as financial assistance to other countries and maintenance of the armed forces of our Polish ally.—British Wireless.

REFUGEE'S GIFT TO WAR FUND

London, To-day.

Including a gift of £2,000 from Tanganyika, the Lord Mayor's Red Cross Fund rose yesterday to £869,000 — an increase on the day of £4,000.

A German Jewish refugee visited the Mansion House yesterday and handed in a German gold ten mark piece.

He explained he had been engaged in importing glass from Czechoslovakia, and after that became impossible, from Finland.

His business had now disappeared so he had decided to make the gift before he had nothing left to give.—British Wireless.

BRIEF SAAR FRONT CLASHES

PARIS, TO-DAY.

LAST NIGHT'S FRENCH WAR COMMUNIQUE STATED THAT THE PREVIOUS NIGHT THERE HAD BEEN SHORT ENCOUNTERS IN THE REGION BETWEEN THE SARRE AND THE WARNDT FOREST.

During the day there was yet another engagement, as well as artillery duels, in the same region.

Our outposts everywhere remained intact.—Reuter.

KWANGSI OPERATIONS

Kweilin, To-day.

There has been no major development on the Nanning-Pinyang and Nanning-Wuming highways. Chinese activity has so far been confined to harassing attacks and destruction of Japanese communication lines.

Several attacks were made against the Japanese north of Yanchow with success.

Guerillas are so active destroying highways that Japanese units find it almost impossible to maintain contact.—Central News.

AUSTRALIAN AIR MINISTER IN LONDON

London, To-day.

The Secretary for Dominion Affairs entertained Mr. J. V. Fairbairn, Minister for Air in the Commonwealth Government, at luncheon yesterday.—British Wireless.

**ROSIE'S
BEAU-**
BY
Geo. McMANUS

ARCHIE—WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY?
YOU'VE SOMETHING IMPORTANT
TO TELL ME? ALL RIGHT—MY
DARLING—DO COME EARLY—I'M
AWFULLY ANXIOUS TO KNOW
WHAT IT IS—

I AM GOING TO SURPRISE
ROSIE AND PROPOSE TO
HER TONIGHT—I AM NOT
GOING TO LET ANYTHING
STAND IN MY WAY—NOW
LET ME SEE IF I'VE GOT
EVERYTHING MEMORIZED
THAT I'M GOING TO SAY—

ROSIE—MY LOVE—
MY OWN—IT IS
MY HEART
THAT SPEAKS
THE WORLD'S
ALL BLACK
WITHOUT YOU—

GENEROUS DONATION TO S.P.C.

Sir,—I shall be much obliged if you will be so good as to publish in your next issue the enclosed copies of correspondence which I have exchanged with an English friend, who desires to remain anonymous, regarding a generous donation he has just made to the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children.

Yours faithfully,

R. H. KOTEWALL.

My dear Kotewall,—I am sorry to see the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children is behind in its finances for the year. Although, on second thoughts, perhaps it is encouraging to learn that the utmost is being made of the available facilities by those working in such a splendid cause.

To overcome the financial difficulty, I enclose a cheque for the year's deficit—\$766,—from my wife and self. In any public acknowledgment please treat this donation as "Anonymous."

Yours sincerely,

My dear,—I have just received your letter enclosing a cheque for \$766 as a donation from you and Mrs. — being the amount of the deficit of last year's working of the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children. Your generosity and the promptitude with which you came to the assistance of the Society have touched me deeply, and I am sure will be a heartening encouragement to the officers and other members of the Society, on whose behalf I tender you both our most grateful thanks.

I hope that you will permit me to send to the English and Chinese Press for publication (omitting your name) your letter and this reply, for I can conceive of no better means of calling the attention of the public to the needs of the Society than this fine lead taken by yourself and Mrs. —.

With renew expression of warmest thanks on behalf of the Society and of the poor and suffering children in the Colony.

I am,
Yours sincerely,
(sd) R. H. KOTEWALL.

EGYPT TESTING DEFENCES

Cairo, To-day.

British and Egyptian land, sea and air forces are now engaged side by side in a combined exercise testing Egypt's defences.

A test "blackout" was held last night over the whole of Lower Egypt and the Canal zone, where the exercises are taking place.—Reuter.

CANADIAN WHEAT

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Ottawa, To-day.

Canadian wheat exports for the first 11 months of 1939 amounted to 144,000,000 bushels, with a total value of Canadian \$92,000,000.

This compares with 104,000,000 bushels and a value of \$88,000,000 in 1938.—Havas.

FUNERAL OF LATE PRINCESS LOUISE

London, To-day.

Their Majesties the King and Queen, the Duke and Duchess of Kent and other members of the Royal Family yesterday attended the funeral of Princess Louise, who was buried in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.—Reuter.

YUNNAN RLY. MAY BE BOMBED

Questioned whether the Indo-China-Yunnan Railway might be bombed, the spokesman at the Shanghai Japanese press conference inferred that if it was necessary to attack this line, the Japanese would do so without warning to the French authorities. No agreement had been arrived at for protection of the line, inasmuch as it was Chinese-owned, but French capital had contributed to its construction. The Japanese had learned that Chungking were receiving munitions along this route.

No notice would be given to the French authorities if bombing should take place.

SHANGHAI STRIKE THREATS

SHANGHAI, TO-DAY.

DISCONTENT RUNS HIGH IN LABOURING CLASSES IN THE CITY, OWING TO THE INCREASED COST OF LIVING. PROFITEERS ARE ALLEGED TO BE HOARDING FOODSTUFFS, INCLUDING RICE.

It is predicted that unless the authorities control prices of foodstuffs organised looting will occur.

Already there is talk of a general strike and employees of other firms have followed the example of the employees of the Sincere Company, Limited.

The Siang Mou Soap factory workers struck work yesterday.—Our Own Correspondent.

SHANGHAI WOMEN SHOCKED

Shanghai, To-day.

Shanghai women were shocked last night when one of the leading executive members of the Shanghai Working Women's Club, Mow Li-ying, was stabbed in Nanking Road. The attackers escaped.—Our Own Correspondent.

SEVENTEEN M.P.'S IN R.A.F.

London, To-day.

According to a Parliamentary answer 17 M.P.'s are serving in the R.A.F.—British Wireless.

LOOK
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VALUE

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5 CHARMING NEW DESIGNS—MODERN STYLE

OUR PRICE **\$1250** SET.

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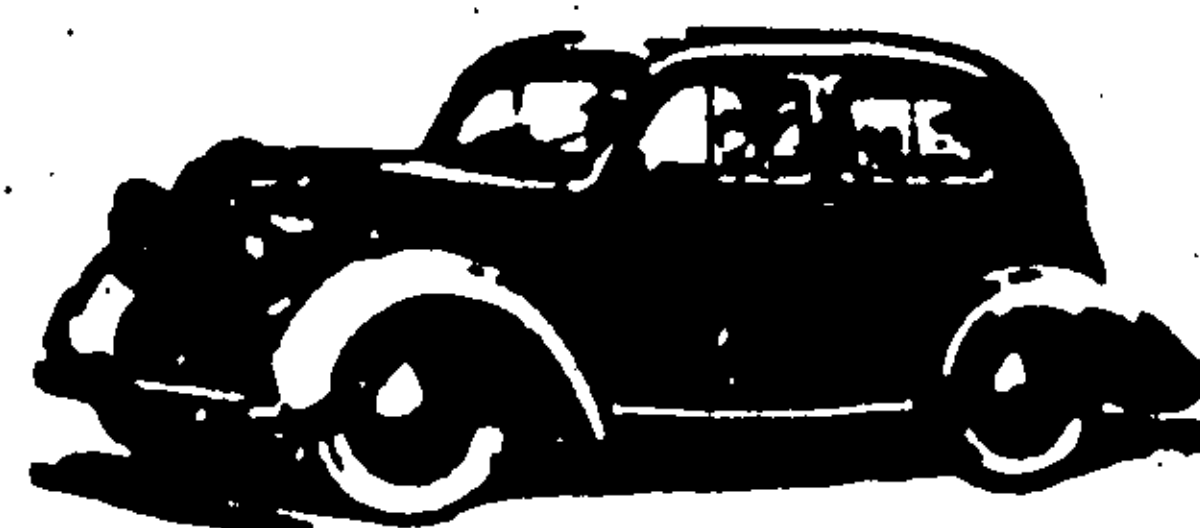
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| 14 h.p. | 30.31 m.p.g. |
| 12 h.p. | 35 m.p.g. |
| 10 h.p. | 43.4 m.p.g. |

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In the

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HONGKONG HOTEL**

on

Thursday, December 14th, 1939 at 6 p.m.

THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING SERVICE MEN IN UNIFORM,
ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

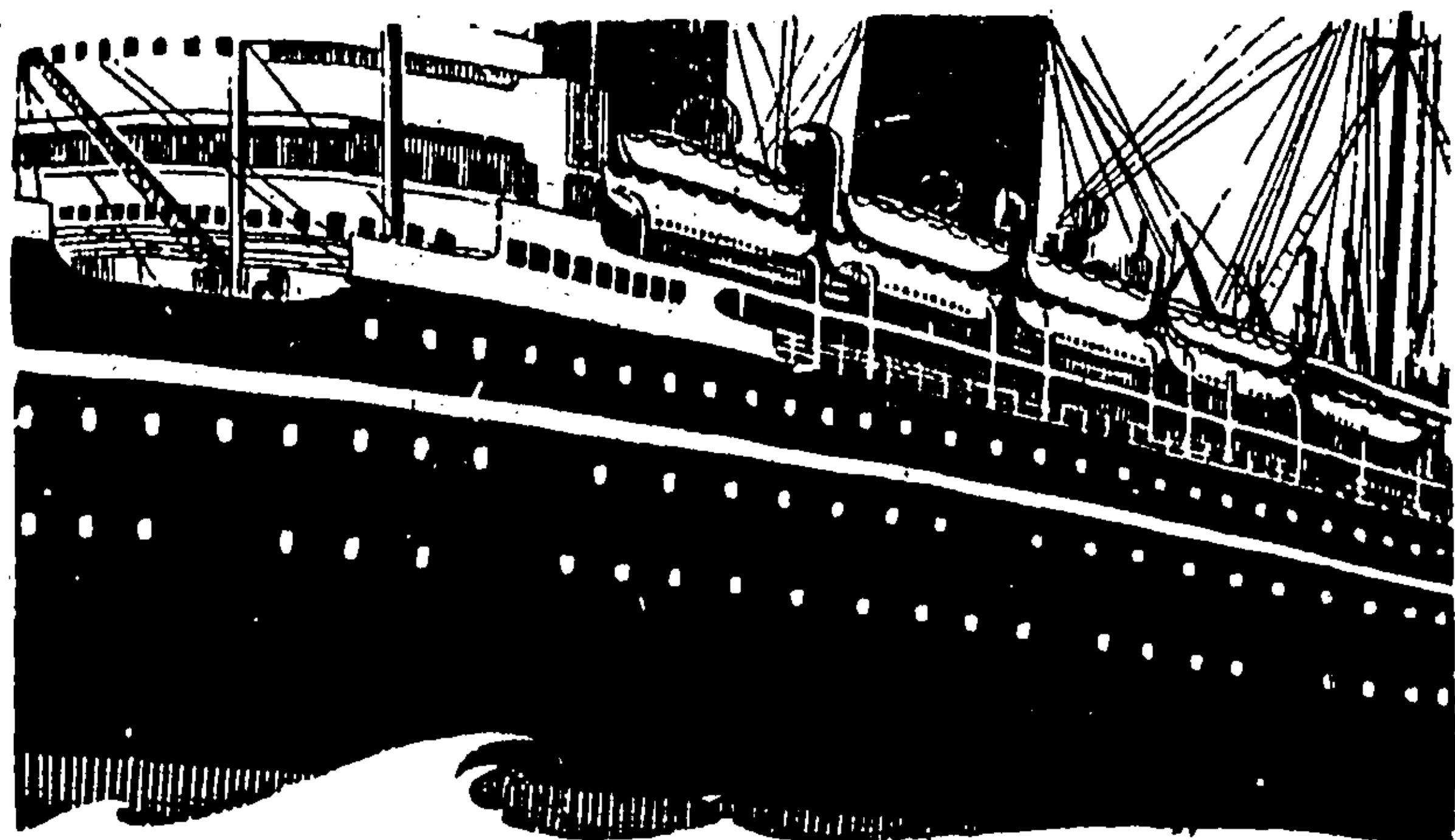
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| DE LUXE Box of 25 | \$ 8.50 |
| DE LUXE Box of 50 | \$16.— |
| DE LUXE—Camagon of 25 | \$10.— |
| In GLASS TUBE—Box of 10 | \$ 4.50 |



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All vessels may call at any ports on or off the route and the route and all sailings are subject to change or deviation with or without notice.

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POST OFFICE

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

Christmas and New Year Cards bearing not more than five written words and enclosed in open envelopes are accepted by the Post Office at the rate for printed matter, i.e. 5 cents per 2 ounces, for all countries. Hong Kong, China and Macao at 2 cents per 2 ounces. Envelopes must not be closed.

INWARD MAILS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Air Mail by "Air France Direct Service"—Paris date, | |
| 6th December | December 13. |
| Straits | December 13. |
| Haiphong and Fort Bayard | December 13. |
| Canton | December 13. |
| Straits | December 13. |
| Air Mail by "Imperial Airways Direct Service"—London date, 6th | |
| December | December 14. |
| Canton | December 14. |
| Manila | December 14. |
| Shanghai and Amoy | December 14. |
| Japan | December 14. |
| Japan and Shanghai | December 14. |
| Shanghai | December 15. |
| Shanghai | December 15. |
| U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Manila | |
| (San Francisco date, 19th Nov.) | December 15. |
| Shanghai | December 15. |
| Shanghai | December 15. |
| Canton | December 15. |
| Haiphong | December 16. |
| Manila | December 16. |

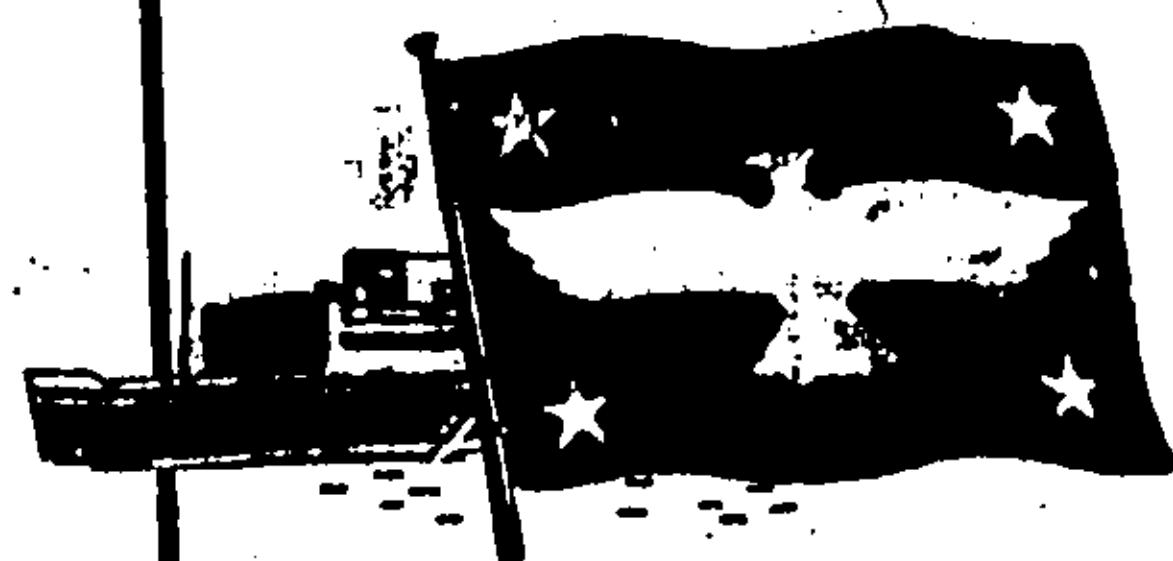
OUTWARD MAILS

Registered and Parcel Mails are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m. on the previous day.

| For | Per | Date and Time. |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------|
| WEDNESDAY | | |
| Parcels only for Swatow | Wed., Dec. 13, 10.30 a.m. | |
| Swatow and Formosa | Wed., Dec. 13, 10.30 a.m. | |
| Haiphong | Wed., Dec. 13, 1.00 p.m. | |
| Straits and Calcutta | Wed., Dec. 13, 2.30 p.m. | |
| Amoy | Wed., Dec. 13, 2.30 p.m. | |
| Air Mail for Indo-China, Iran, and | | |
| France (Paris and Northern Pro- | Reg., Wed., Dec. 13, 5.00 p.m. | |
| vinces only) by the "Air France | Ord., Wed., Dec. 13, 5.30 p.m. | |
| Airways Direct Service" — due | G.P.O. | |
| Paris 21st December. | Reg., Wed., Dec. 13, 5.00 p.m. | |
| | Ord., Wed., Dec. 13, 7.00 p.m. | |
| Straits | Dec. 13, 7.00 p.m. | |
| THURSDAY | | |
| Sandakan | Dec. 14, 8.30 a.m. | |
| Fort Bayard | Dec. 14, 1.30 p.m. | |
| Amoy | Dec. 14, 4.00 p.m. | |
| Amoy | Dec. 14, 7.00 p.m. | |
| FRIDAY | | |
| Shanghai, Japan, Canada, U.S.A., Cen- | G.P.O. & K.P.O. | |
| tral and South America via Van- | | |
| couver B.C., (Parcels for Canada | Par., Dec. 14, 5.00 p.m. | |
| only)—due Vancouver B.C., 1st Jan. | Reg., Dec. 15, 9.15 a.m. | |
| 1940. | Ord., Dec. 15, 10.00 a.m. | |
| Parcels only for Shanghai and Tientsin | Dec. 15, 10.30 a.m. | |
| Fort Bayard and Hoihow | Dec. 15, 1.30 p.m. | |
| Haiphong | Dec. 15, 2.00 p.m. | |

* Superscribed correspondent only.

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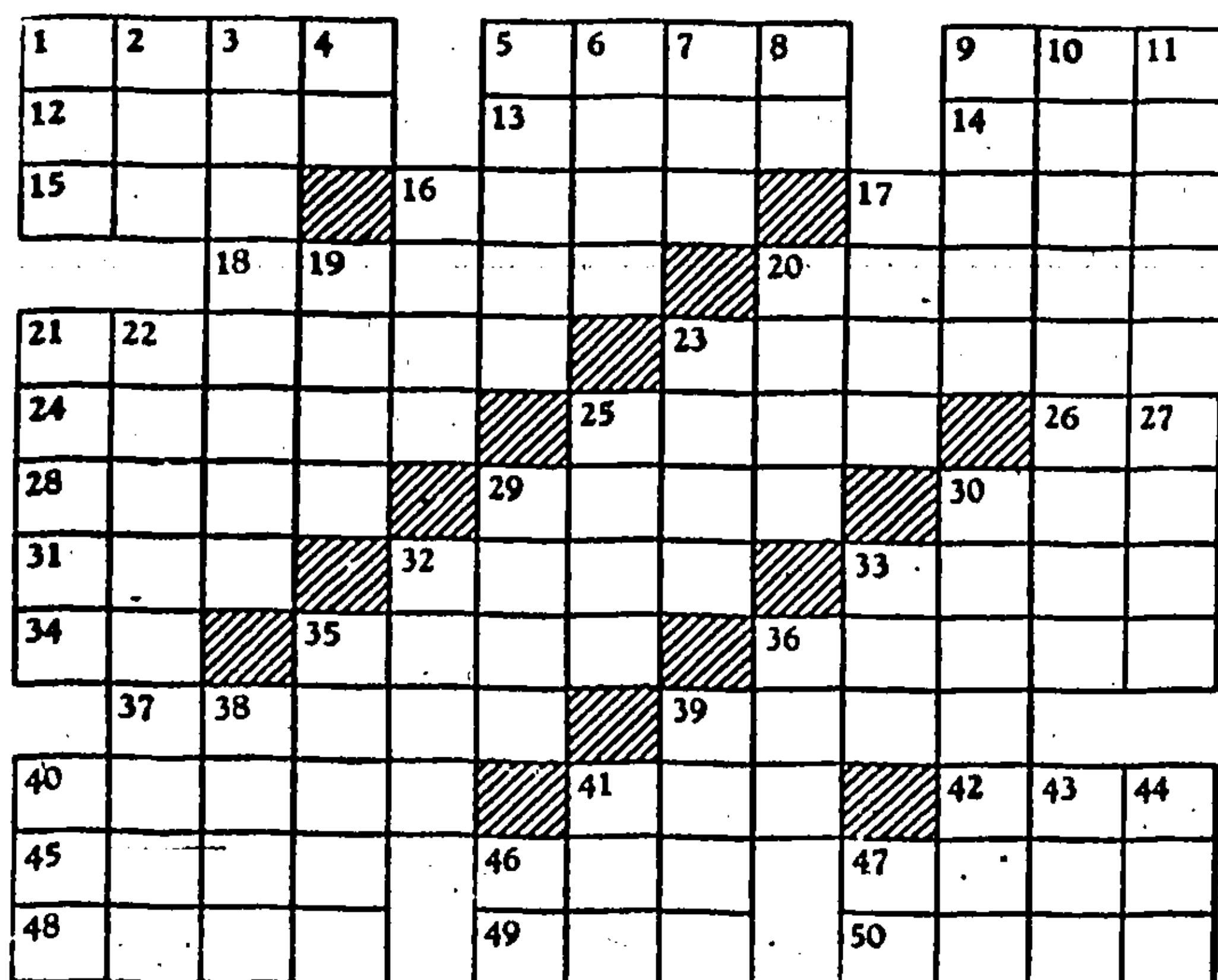
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OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



HORIZONTAL

- 1 Appellation of Athena
- 5 Mottled
- 9 Wire measure
- 12 Following
- 13 Italian river
- 14 S. American
- 15 Isle
- 16 Sour
- 17 Siamese coins
- 18 Roof edges
- 20 Blow
- 21 Feeding crib
- 23 South Sea islander
- 24 More mature
- 25 Box
- 26 Preposition
- 28 Bonds
- 29 Brusk
- 30 To tear
- 31 To spread
- 32 Germinated grain
- 33 Hub
- 34 Concerning
- 35 Peak
- 36 Cud
- 37 Sprinkle
- 38 Location
- 40 Beavers

VERTICAL

- 41 School of whales
- 42 Body of water
- 45 To await settlement
- 46 Caravansary
- 47 Tale of adventure
- 48 Totals
- 49 Small boat
- 50 Greek mountain

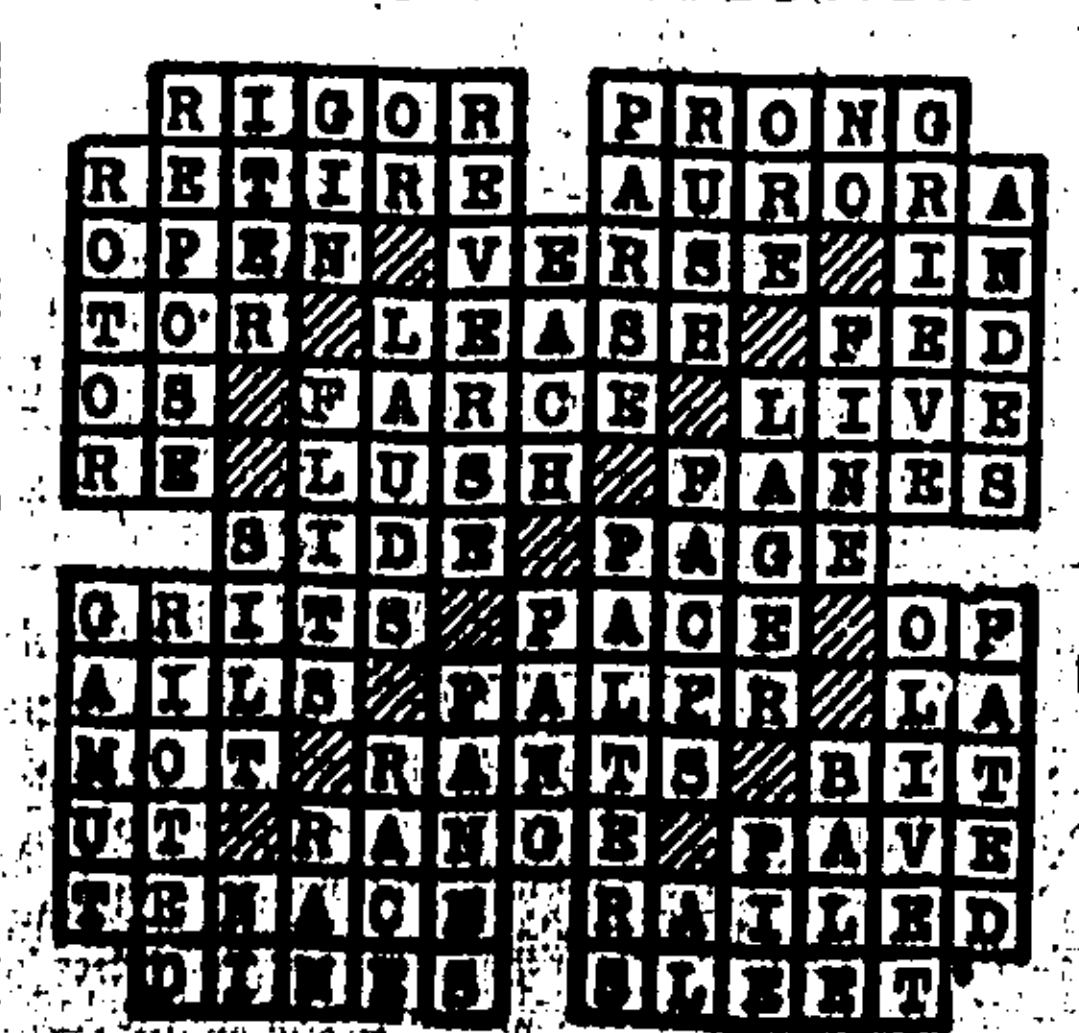
VERTICAL

- 1 Medicine: of each
- 2 Hawaiian wreath
- 3 Lengthened
- 4 Preposition
- 5 Harness
- 6 Part of eye

VERTICAL

- 7 Goal
- 8 To perform
- 9 Engine
- 10 Known by instinct
- 11 To endure
- 16 To state
- 17 Medicinal plant
- 19 Periods
- 20 To throw
- 21 Slogan
- 22 Estranged
- 23 Trading place
- 25 To select
- 27 To expand
- 29 To summon
- 30 Egyptian ruler
- 32 Bearing
- 33 Hard shelled fruit
- 35 Flying creatures
- 36 Margin
- 38 To tear
- 39 Warbled
- 40 Resort
- 41 African antelope
- 43 Worm
- 44 Filipino
- 46 Pronoun
- 47 Depart

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



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New M/V "BRASIL MARU"
 making her maiden voyage in
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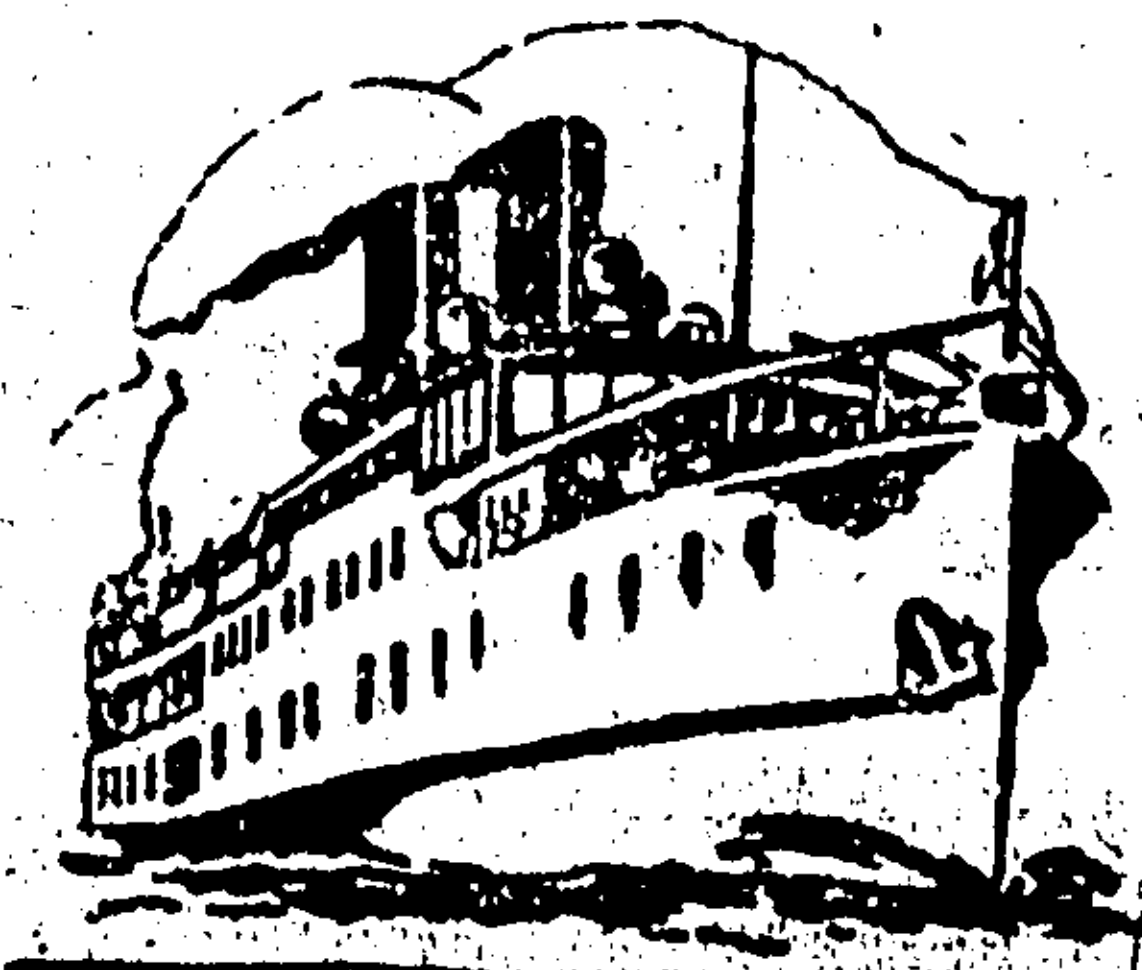
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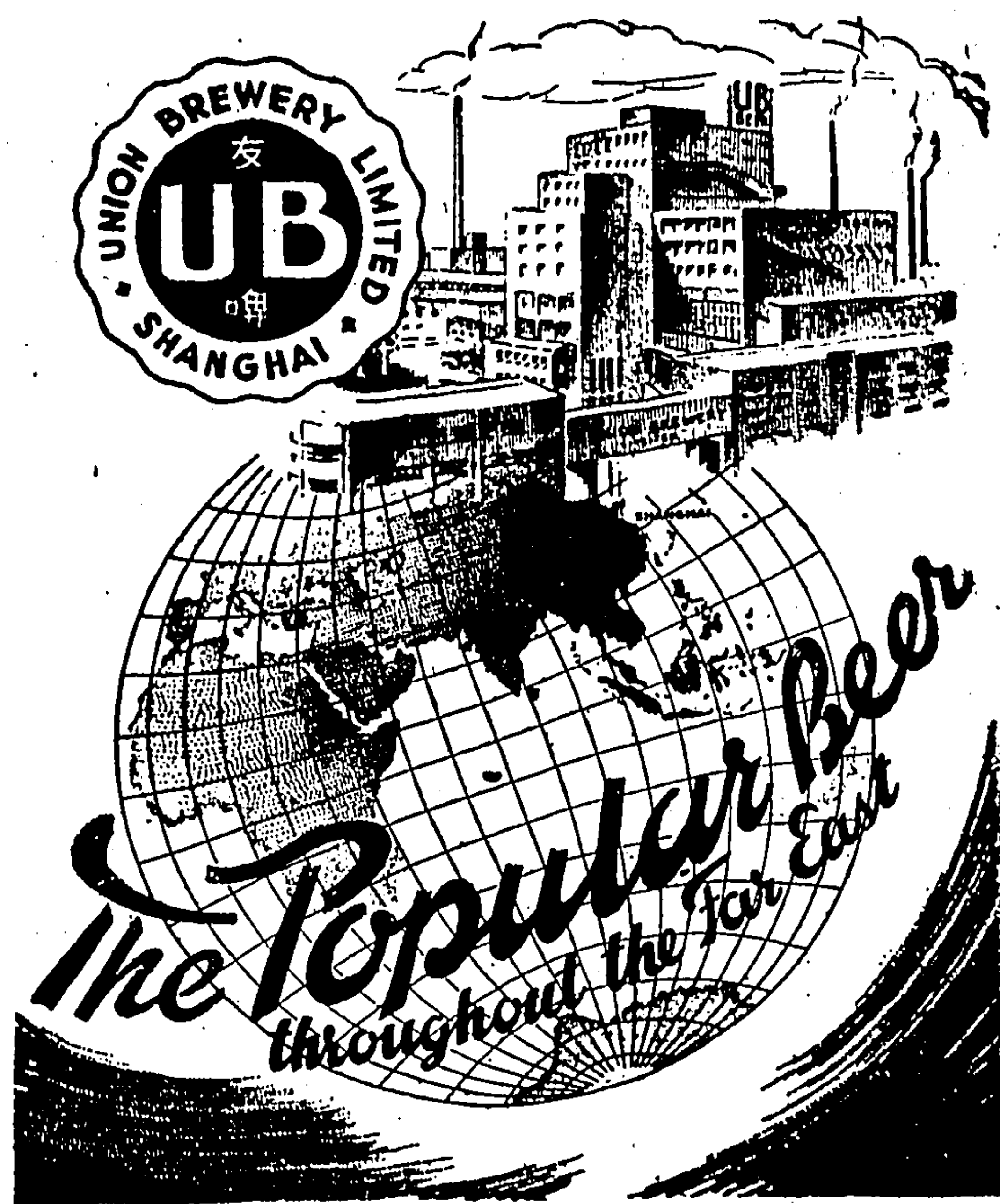
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CANADA WORLD'S LARGEST PRODUCER OF NICKEL

With the world's main supply of nickel in Canada and only a few miles from the United States border, there is little fear that the uninterrupted flow of the metal here will be interfered with because of the European war. Owing to the traditional friendship and commercial ties between the two countries, the Dominion Government is not likely to restrict the movement of the metal to the United States for domestic consumption, states J. H. Carnical in the "New York Times."

Since the United States is the largest consumer of nickel and produces only an infinitesimal part of its requirements, considerable interest has been manifest in this metal, which is essential for efficient industrial and military operations. Defence authorities here recently classed nickel as a strategic metal.

WORLD PRODUCTION

Of an estimated world production of 109,000 metric tons last year, Canada accounted for 95,559, or about 88 per cent. of the total. New Caledonia, an island in the South Pacific Ocean belonging to France, is the second largest producer, with an output of 6,004 metric tons last year.

In addition there is small production in Germany, Russia, Japan, Southern Rhodesia, Burma and Norway. The primary output in the United States which was principally a by-product in the electric refining of copper, amounted to only 377 tons.

Since 1933 the Mond Nickel Company, Ltd., English subsidiary of the International Nickel Company of Canada, Ltd., has been carrying on development work in Finland. In the annual report of International Nickel for 1937 it was said that "a substantial tonnage of ore of excellent grade has been proved by diamond drilling and prompt steps are being taken to develop the property for an output of 1,000,000 pounds of nickel and 500,000 pounds of copper monthly."

RUSSIAN DESIGNS

According to reports from London Joseph Stalin is anxious to obtain control over the extensive nickel deposits in Finland in order to free Russia from dependence upon the British Empire for the metal. The mine is about thirty miles southwest of the Finnish port of Petsamo, an ice-free harbour on the Arctic Ocean, on which Russia also is said to have designs.

International Nickel, it is estimated, has expended about \$5,000,000 on development of the Finnish ore, and it is expected that possibly \$5,000,000 additional will be required for completion of the project, originally scheduled for next Autumn.

To provide power for operation of the mine and a smelter under construction, the company last year start-

ed to build a hydroelectric plant, also scheduled for operation by the Autumn of 1940.

CONSUMPTION IN UNITED STATES

Although the consumption of nickel in the United States last year was almost 50 per cent. below 1937, largely because of decreased industrial activity, it amounted to 23,400 metric tons out of a total world use of 92,500. Russia was second with a consumption of 17,300 metric tons, followed by the United Kingdom with 13,200 and Germany with 12,200.

Previous to the World War about 80 per cent. of the consumption of nickel was directly in the manufacture of armaments. The metal was used in addition as an important alloy in various machines for the making of armaments.

After the World War, however, industrial uses were developed and in recent years it is estimated that the consumption of nickel for armament purposes declined to about 10 per cent. of total output.

The price of nickel has been unchanged at 35 cents a pound since 1928.

LOCAL SHARES

BANKS

Hong Kong Bank \$1330 b.

Bank of East Asia \$72 b.

INSURANCES

Union Ins. \$400 sa.

SHIPPING

Douglases \$71½ b.

Indo-Chinas (Pref.) \$80 b.

Indo-Chinas (Def.) \$50 b.

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS,

ETC.

H.K. Docks \$19.10 b., \$19.10/20 sa.

Providents \$4.40 b.

New Engineerings Sh. \$19.80 sa.

MINING

Raub's \$10½ sa.

LANDS, HOTELS & BLDGS.

H.K. and S. Hotels \$4.70 b., \$4.90 s.

H.K. Lands \$33¼ b.

Humphreys \$7¾ b.

H.K. Realities \$4.30 b.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

H.K. Tramways \$16½ b.

Peak Trams (New) \$4 sa.

Star Ferries \$66 b.

Yaumati Ferries \$23½ b.

China Lights (Old) \$8 b., \$7.90 sa.

China Lights (New) \$4¾ b.

H.K. Electrics \$52 b., \$52 sa.

Sandakan Lights \$11½ b.

Telephones (Old) \$24¼ b.

Telephones (New) \$8.60 b., \$8½ sa.

INDUSTRIALS

Cements \$18.10 b., \$18 sa.

H.K. Ropes \$5¼ b.

STORES, &C.

Dairy Farms (Old) \$20½ b.

Dairy Farms (New) \$19¼ b., \$19½ sa.

Watsons \$8.60 b., \$8.40/55 sa.

MISCELLANEOUS

Entertainments \$6½ b.

Constructions (Old) \$1¼ b.

MANILA SHARES

Antamoks Ps. 15½ sa.

Atoks Ps. 18 b.

Baguio Gold Ps. 15½ sa.

Batong Buhay Ps. .012 sa.

Big Wedge Ps. .21 sa.

Coco Grove Ps. .16 sa.

Consol. Mines Ps. .0025 sa.

Demonstrations Ps. .10 sa.

I.X.L. Ps. 41½ sa.

Ipo Gold Ps. 14½ sa.

Itocons Ps. 27½ sa.

Mambulao Ps. .013 b.

Masbates Ps. .10 sa.

Mind. Mother Lode Ps. .08½ sa.

Mine Operation Ps. .09½ b.

Paracale Gumaus Ps. .20 sa.

San Mauricio Ps. .79 sa.

Surigao Consol. Ps. 16½ b.

Suyoc Consol. Ps. 13½ sa.

Syndicate Inv. Ps. .92 b.

United Paracale Ps. 31½ sa.

TO-DAY'S STRANGE STORY OF REAL PEOPLE

THOMAS PARR — "THE HUMAN MARVEL"

By VINCENT TOWNE

"You have lived longer than other men. What have you done more than other men?" asked King Charles I, of Thomas Parr.

"I did penance in church, your Majesty, when 105," answered the famous centenarian.

"Penance... for what?" asked the King.

"On account of a woman, Sire," the ancient replied. "It was forty-seven years ago."

And this dialogue King Charles delighted in repeating to his courtiers during the remainder of his life.

That most accomplished curiosity collector of his time, Thomas Hunter, 2nd Earl of Arundel, had "by easy stages" brought "The Human Marvel" in a litter to London where he was exhibited for a time at the Queen's Head, in the Strand.

So important was he at the time of his death, at Lord Arundel's house, that he was buried along with the Kings of England in Westminster Abbey, where the inscription on his tomb reads:

"Tho: Parr of ye county of Sallop. Borne in Ao 1483. He lived in ye reignes of Ten Princes" (Here listed) "Aged 152 years, and was buried here Nov. 15, 1635."

The ten monarchs under whom, according to this inscription, Thomas Parr lived, extended from Edward IV to Charles I.

Parr was a farmer, as his father had been before him. What appear to have been his most reliable biographers agree upon the following facts:

When 88, he married his first wife, Jane Taylor, by whom he had a son, John, who died when ten weeks old and a daughter, Joan, who did not survive early infancy. The penance which he recalled to King Charles I was done "in a white sheet in Alberbury Church" when he was 105, the complainant being Katherine Milton who swore against him a baby born without benefit of clergy.

That was seven years before the death of his first wife, which occurred when he was 112. For the next ten years, he remained true to her memory but married Jane Lloyd, widow, of Gullsfield, when he was 112. Until 130 he was known as one of the strongest men in his neighbourhood, being able to thresh corn in the field and perform the hardest manual labour.

He was in the habit of eating simple fare—"sub-rancid cheese and milk in every form, coarse and hard bread and small drink generally sour "whey" but while in the London limelight he overate and overdrank and died suddenly of congestion caused by a mid-night meal.

The illustrious Dr. William Harvey, discoverer of the circulation of the blood, performed the autopsy on Parr and pronounced his vital organs to be in singularly healthy condition.

Dr. Harvey's report states: "The cause of death seemed fairly referable



OLD PARR BEFORE KING CHARLES I

to a sudden change in the non-naturals, the chief mischief being connected with the change of air which through the whole course of his life had been inhaled of perfect purity—light, cool and mobile."

The Poet, John Taylor, wrote of "The Human Marvel."

"Form head to heel his body hath all over."

A quick set, thickset, nat'ral hairy cover."

"I simply
adore this lovely
perfume"



THERE is nothing so fragrant—so delightfully haunting—as the old-world perfume of lavender which is incorporated to perfection in Erasmic Old London Lavender Toilet Soap. This perfume has stood the test of time. It was as much a favourite in grandmother's day as it is now. No other perfume is so refreshing—so delicate—so pleasing.

And the soap—the rich, creamy lather, soft and soothing to the skin. How well it cleanses! How comforting it feels! It is a real beauty treatment in itself.



ERASMIC
Old London LAVENDER
TOILET SOAP

AGENTS—JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.



The height of optimism is reached when a man feels sure the can die he's burning at both ends won't go soft in the middle.

GLT CABLES

Cable and Wireless announce that G. L. T. Services will be admitted with Canada, India and Burma as from to-morrow, December 14.

The inclusion of these countries now completes the G. L. T. Scheme with all parts of the Empire.

Telegrams relating to family news, social matters or personal affairs are accepted in the G. L. T. Service. The rate is \$4 for a minimum of twelve words and additional words in proportion.

CHORAL RECITAL

The joint choir of the Christ Church and the Hop Yat Church will present a choral concert at the Hop Yat Church in Bonham Road on Saturday, December 16, commencing at 8.30 p.m. The programme will be in two parts, the first comprising selections from 'Creation' by Haydn, and the second, a variety of Christmas Carols.

The same recital will be repeated on Wednesday, December 20, at the St. Andrew's Church in Kowloon, and on both occasions members of other churches are welcome.

CRICKET NOTES

THREE INTERESTING SENIOR ENCOUNTERS

Recreio Give Most Impressive Batting Display

GREEN AND N. BROADBRIDGE PROMINENT

(By "ADREM")

Q. M. S. Green and Norman Broadbridge took the honours in Saturday's junior cricket. The former was unplayable in taking 7 for 29 for R.A.M.C. against 5th A.A. Regt., R.A., while Broadbridge played an attractive innings of 62 not out for Craigengower against Civil Service.

Green's bowling and Q. M. S. Patterson's batting were the chief features of the inter-unit match at Soekunpoo. Only Dobbinson of the A.A. Regt. was able to stand up to Green and the side was dismissed for 80, and Patterson, former Interport stumper, carried his bat through the R.A.M.C. innings for 48 not out. Dume gave valuable support to Patterson, helping him to add 66 for the fifth wicket.

Although Club's bowlers had a good afternoon, their batsmen were unable to give them victory over the Police in a low-scoring match.

Police batted first but apart from Pope, Loughlin and Lewis could do little against the bowling of Dow, Stoker and Parsons.

Club's earlier batsmen failed miserably and only a fine captain's innings by E. J. R. Mitchell and 23 by Parsons saved them from utter rout. They finally got to within 17

MRS. CHIU ENTERS TENNIS SEMI-FINAL

Mrs. Enid Litton, former Colony champion, accomplished a good performance at U.S.R.C. yesterday when she beat the steady Miss Madge Griffiths in the Colony Ladies' singles championship by 6-3, 6-3.

One of the strongest contenders, Mrs. Chiu Chun-chiu was the first player to enter the semi-finals by virtue of her 6-2, 6-3 win over Miss J. Greig.

runs of the Police total of 102.

Most successful Police bowlers were Pope, Hunter and Lewis. It appears to me that the latter, who has given some useful displays with his left-handers, might be used a good deal more to the advantage of this team.

CHAMPIONS WIN EASILY

K.C.C., Junior Champions, were never given any trouble by R.A.F. and won easily by 6 wickets.

New and Nancarrow gave the Airmen a good start but when Baldwin took over an end, there was little more to it. He kept a most excellent length to take 5 for 12. Curtis again bowled steadily and Mills took two useful wickets but was somewhat erratic.

Mulcahy and Francis Lay, for K.C.C., did pretty much as they liked and added 52 for the first wicket. Mulcahy went on to make 57 before retiring, after which K.C.C. indulged in a bit of hitting.

Despite a fine innings of 53 by Ainslie, Civil Service were badly beaten by Craigengower, thanks to the effort of Norman Broadbridge.

A. M. Omar was Craigengower's best bowler to take 5 for 29.

A QUESTION OF THE RULES AT C.S.C.C

(By "ADREM")

THERE were three senior games on Saturday all of which, for various reasons, were quite interesting. Recreio batsmen caused quite a surprise at Hong Kong Cricket Club, putting together just under 200 runs for the loss of only five wickets; University gave Indian Recreation Club a good game and Civil Service lost to Craigengower in semi-darkness, in the last of two extra overs.

Norman Broadbridge, of Craigengower juniors, was the outstanding junior player in four mediocre matches and is definitely in splendid form at the moment.

Although it was generally expected that they would give a good account of themselves provided they fielded their strongest team, it was not thought that Craigengower would be able to beat the Civil Service team which has had a great season.

Despite the fact that they were without George Souza and P. J. Billimoria, and A. R. H. Esmail, who was not well, only filled in on the field, however, they scrambled home by the narrow margin of 14 runs.

There has been a great song and dance about what has been described as the two illegal overs after time for drawing of stumps which enabled Craigengower to win. As I understand the position, Civil Service, with Barrow and Whitley batting, needed some 20 runs to win when 5.45 arrived. Barrow then suggested that as there was a prospect of a definite result being arrived at, the game be continued. The fielding side having no objection and Whitley, being prepared to carry on, the umpires, after consultation, agreed to a couple of extra overs.

A GAMBLE

As is usual in such cases the poor light made it more difficult for the fielders than the batsmen. Neither F. R. Zimmerman nor G. Whitch were giving anything away but Ernie Zimmerman decided to risk all in giving slow left-hander A. H. Esmail the ball.

This move met with almost instant success as Whitley had a dip at one and was taken by Hong Sing. Fourth ball of the next over Francis Zimmerman bowled Barrow with a beauty and Craigengower emerged victors by 14 runs.

Barrow has been severely criticised for taking the initiative in having the game prolonged but while I feel that it is a good thing to stick to the rules as far as possible, the facts that either side might have won in the time available, and nothing depended upon the match, places rather a different complexion on the matter.

I have heard the League criticised on numerous occasions as tending to make teams concentrate far too much on the points involved to the exclusion of the spirit of the game. This season being free from League cricket for far and there always being the possibility that there will not be any at all, appears to have made even these friendly far grimmer affairs than they used to be.

I have played in numerous matches where extra time has been played in foul light in order to obviate the necessity for unsatisfactory draws. Only difference in this instance was that the captain of the batting side did not give his sanction. Barrow, apparently quite thoughtlessly, made the suggestion in the best possible spirit and I think it is a bit hard that he should have been jumped on as has happened.

If the fault lay anywhere, it was with the umpires. Apparently they had been given no definite time for drawing of stumps, and the time had to be drawn strictly speaking only after the League matches, they merely complied with a request that was satisfactory to all those actively concerned the batsmen and the fielders.

In any event they quarrel over a small matter like this.

UNPLAYABLE
As far as the game itself was concerned, Lim and Lee opened for Craigengower on a wicket that appeared to have been badly overcast. Perry bowled very steadily and McLaughlin was really magnificent. I am told that he was making the ball turn nearly

by both ways and was almost impossible to get away.

Whitley also bowled well and apart from one hectic over bowled by Fenton, the visitors were always struggling for runs.

Lim, suffering from a severe cold in the head, gave the impression of being anxious to get back to the warmth of the pavilion as soon as possible and, as he often happens on such occasions, simply could not get out.

He went on to make 47 before attempting what he had not thought of before, evidently, an impossible run!

When Civil Service batted, bowlers once again got on top. Zimmerman, apart from the usual occasional full toss, kept an accurate length but which was the main thing that impressed.

A regular member of the second eleven, he kept a perfect length and simply could not be got away.

Many batsmen were always giving the batsmen something to think about and this player is definitely establishing himself as one of the most useful change bowlers in the club.

The Civil Service runs were scored mostly by Richardson, Hollidge and Perry but after McLaughlin was caught by E. Zimmerman at winch, Craigengower appeared to be on top and, as is now common knowledge, won with the aid of the extra time.

UNIVERSITY'S FINE SHOWING

I have been told that University would have stood a very good chance of beating Indian Recreation Club at Pokfulam had there been a bit more time. That's their story anyway!

They were 45 runs behind at the close with four wickets in hand but they lost a couple of wickets in their efforts to get quick runs.

There was not a great deal of note in the I.R.C. innings. A. H. Madar, as usual, being by far the best batsman. A. H. Rumball made a quiet 18 and Khana hit hard for 45.

Best bowler for University was G. Mahomed, who gave a fine display to take 3 for 24. Gegg also put down some good stuff but still appears to be trying to get more pace out of himself than he is physically capable of.

R. Singh took most of the wickets—6 for 44—but I am told he was fairly fortunate.

Although he made only 18, Matthews' innings for University was a very impressive one. His playing of Minu was masterly and he used his feet splendidly in getting to the ball and smothering the break.

Gegg's knock was useful and effective rather than academic. He played some very nice shots on the off, his cutting being especially good, but he got quite a number of his runs with unorthodox but effective cow shots in the general direction of mid-on. That made 25 but was lucky and most of the remaining batsmen went for the runs.

A. H. Madar bowled splendidly for four overs, during which he had only 8 runs scored off him and nearly secured Gegg's wicket, but was then unaccountably taken off and not given another chance.

The I.R.C. fielding was excellent but the University's left room for improvement.

BEST BATTING PERFORMANCE

The Recreio innings in the second week in the Club-Recreio match makes strange reading indeed. It is probably the most impressive they have produced since their return to the Senior League.

Only Willie Reed failed completely, the seven batsmen who performed: J. M. Gossio made 74, L. G. Gossio 16, Eddie Soares 23, Eddie Gossio 25, including 4 six off Haynes, G. N. Gossio 51 not out and A. M. Rodrigues 47 not out.

Club bowlers, however, were not so good. Pearce's was not very clever, he was gauged from the fact that Doctor (second change).

Club batsmen could get little more out of the bowlers and with some of the batting changes they never looked like getting the runs they needed.

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FURTHER POSTPONEMENTS IN BADMINTON LEAGUE

(BY "ADREM")

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE three matches on the fixture-list, only one game will be played this evening in "B" Division of the Badminton League.

This will be between King's College and Kowloon Cricket Club and will be played at Bonham Road.



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There can only be one result to this game, with due respect to the K.C.C. team, but it will be interesting to see how A. L. Fisher and P. Wynter-Blyth, who won all three games against St. John's, fare against the well-balanced King's pairings.

King's will have out their usual team but K.C.C. are making two changes in their last line-up. T. A. Madar, who has had some experience of the game, and A. Zimmern, a comparative beginner, will play their first matches in the League.

What should have been a good match—Kowloon Tong v. St. Teresa's—has been postponed until Friday.

It is not definite that the V.R.C.—St. Andrew's match has been postponed but the "China Mail" was informed by the St. Andrew's representative yesterday afternoon that the match was unlikely to be played to-night.

K.C.C. — P. Wynter Blyth and A. L. Fisher; A. Kevan and T. Madar; A. Zimmern and E. Curtis.

King's College — H. T. Woo and K. L. Lui; T. H. Lo and T. Lam; S. P. Chan and W. M. Cheung.

SPORTS PARADE

UNLIKE previous years, Hong Kong Football Association is this season inviting nominations from the various Clubs of players who will be able, if selected, to make the trip to Shanghai for the Interport game in February.

The Chinese Clubs, the Police and Military Authorities have again been written to, to ascertain if any of their players will be able to make the trip; as yet no replies have been received though it is generally expected that none of the players from the above teams will be available.

It will therefore be left to the three civilian clubs to furnish the players and, from the names unofficially submitted for consideration, a useful side should be selected.

Kowloon have nominated, Williamson, Jorge, Maxwell and Ulrich, while Club have sent the names of the following players:—Fowler, Fowler, E. Strange, S. Strange and McEwan.

St. Joseph's have stated that any of their players selected will be able to make the trip.

GREATEST difficulty facing the Selection Committee is in the selection of a goal-keeper. Odell, of Club, and Tsang, of St. Joseph's, are the only available players and if Tsang decides to go he should be the obvious choice.

The forward line should present little difficulty as there are Fowler, Jorge, A. V. Gosang, Leonard and (Continued at foot of Next Col.)

U.S.S. TULSA'S SPORTING ACTIVITIES

In the first round of the singles handicap competition played at Hong Kong Bowling Alleys last evening S. A. Ismail defeated R. H. Duddridge by 557 points to 422. Ismail received a handicap of plus 25 and Duddridge plus 9.

Also at the Alleys last evening a friendly game of duck pins was played between U.S.S. Tulsa and U.S.S. Mindanao, resulting in a win by the former by 86 pins.

Scores:

U.S.S. Tulsa:—J. A. Vasko 551, O. F. Drewes 484, C. T. Christiansen 483 and J. R. Terry 425. Total, 1843.
U.S.S. Mindanao:—D. M. Keplinger 508, J. C. Thomas 460, R. L. Reichold 460 and H. F. Hirschberg 429. Total, 1857.

GOOD SOCCER EFFORT

The soccer team from U.S.S. Tulsa engaged a team from H.M.S. Cicala at the Dockyard yesterday and secured a draw, each side scoring twice.

The game started at a fast pace and after 15 minutes Newby put Cicala in the lead. Just before the interval, Wilkinson inc. scored the score.

After the interval, Myers, for the Americans, reduced the lead. Three minutes later they equalised, through G. Potter.

Cicala has challenged the football squad of the Tulsa to a softball match on Monday at King's Park.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

TO-DAY

First Division

v Navy

Middlesex

(Sookunpoo at 4.00 p.m.).

Referee:—Foster.

Linesmen:—Salter and Gibson.

ARMY RUGBY

Two Army Rugby matches were played yesterday at Sookunpoo, resulting in wins for Royal Engineers over 5th A.A. Regiment, R.A., by 28 points to nil and 8th Heavy Regiment, R.A., over a combined R.A.M.C. and Signals' team by 28 points to nil.

Honniball who should give good accounts of themselves.

The defence presents another problem.

With Tsang in goal, the backs will probably be Ulrich, and Hussain or Strange, with the halves composed of Maxwell Williamson and E. Strange.

Pereira of St. Joseph's is playing good football at present and is a good forward or half while T. Castilho should be considered as a reserve at least, being able to play in several positions.

No reply has yet been received from Manila in answer to Hong Kong's invitation to them for this period, while Macao, who have just started their season, are looking to their Interport with us with some interest.

THE Preliminary Round replay in the Junior Football Shield between Royal Scots, holders, and 8th Royal Artillery, arranged for to-day has been postponed at the request of the Gunners.

Owing to the fact that Sookunpoo is being used for Rugby on Saturday, the First Division game between Middlesex and Royal Navy arranged for that day will now be played this afternoon at 4 p.m. at Sookunpoo.

Navy are not able to field their best side, owing to injuries, while Middlesex will be at full strength, but a clean and interesting game should result.

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The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on
Thursday, the 14th. Dec., 1939
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The First Bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m.

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No One without a badge will be admitted to the Members' Enclosure. Such must be worn throughout the duration of each Meeting in such a manner as to be readily identified.

Badges admitting Non-Members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$5.00 for Gentlemen and \$3.00 for Ladies (both including tax) are obtainable through the SECRETARY upon the personal or written application of a Member, such Member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him, and for Payment of all Chits, etc.

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The price of Admission to the Public Enclosure is \$1.00 including Tax, for all Persons, including Ladies, and is payable at the Gate. Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform are admitted Half Price.

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Hong Kong, 11th. Dec., 1939.

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| Mountain Lodge | 1726 |
| The Byrle | 1725 |
| Peak Tram Station | 1305 |
| Talkoo Sanatorium | 1000 |
| Mt. Davis | 877 |
| Bower Road (Haterbade) | 807 |
| Mainland | Feet. |
| Tai Mo Shan | 1100 |
| Kowloon Peak | 1000 |

FRENCH COMMENT ON POOLING OF RESOURCES

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

THE NEW ANGLO-FRENCH economic and financial agreement will be applied during the whole of the war and six months afterwards, declared M. Paul Reynaud, the Finance Minister, to the press yesterday.

"The agreement," M. Reynaud declared, "corresponds in the financial and economic fields to the progress achieved in the military field by the institution of unity of command."

"It is a pooling of the energies of the two peoples for victory."

A shipping pool is also announced. An official communique in connexion with the new Anglo-French agreement says complete agreement was reached for the re-establishment of Anglo-French monetary solidarity.

It was recognised it was in the common interest to suspend for the duration of the war modifications of the present parity between the franc and Sterling.

CONSTANT CONTACT

Each country will be granted facilities to supply itself with the currency of the other country and to use it freely, according to the terms of the agreement.

M. Reynaud, the French Finance Minister, and Sir John Simon, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, also decided on the proportion in which certain

common expenses will be shared. The British and French Treasuries will keep in constant close contact, and frequent meetings will be held for discussion of technical questions. —Havas.

NAZI STEEL SHORTAGE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Amsterdam, To-day.

German steel and iron works have refused Dutch orders for machinery.

The decision is taken to indicate the extreme shortage of essential raw materials, as Germany previously was eager to maintain exports to neighbouring countries, this commerce being her only source of foreign currency. —Havas.

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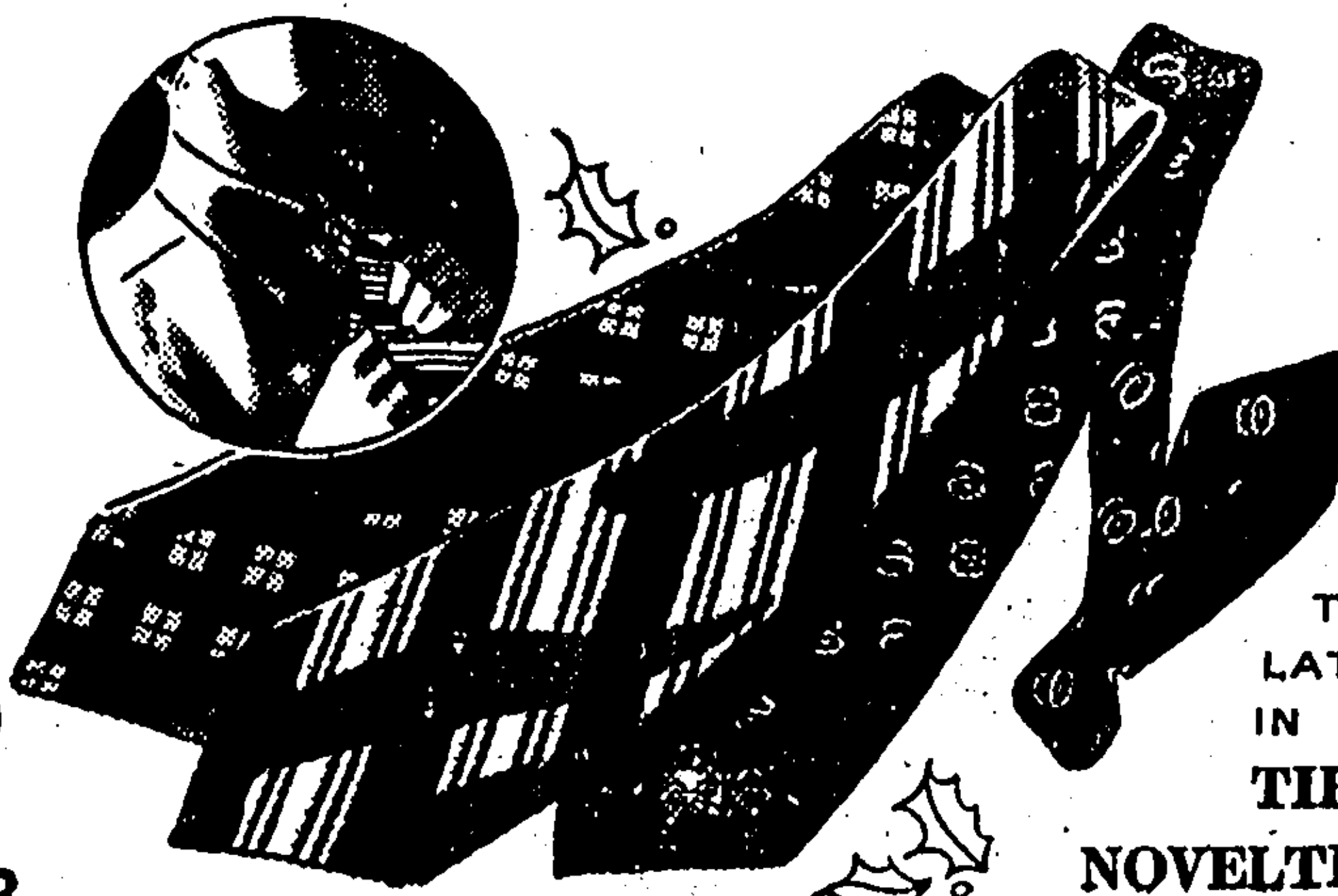
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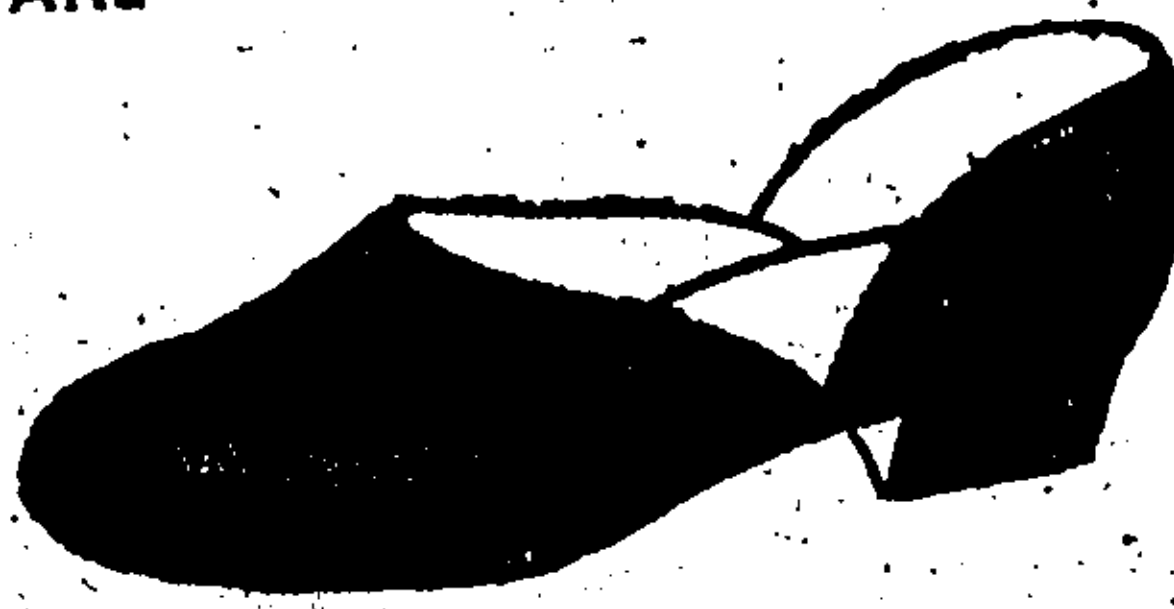
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Paris, To-day.

The French Minister of Merchant Marine states that a complete Franco-British transport plan will be worked out, and the authorities will see that all needs are supplied in order of emergency. —Reuter.

Kwong Chow Wan, To-day.

Chinese aircraft raided the Japanese near Nanning and around Yamchowfu yesterday.

This is the first time Chinese aircraft have been reported in the Nanning region.

The reports add that the Chinese planes bombed the Japanese positions with considerable success.

The situation north of Nanning is unchanged with occasional skirmishes between Japanese and Chinese patrols. —Our Qwn Correspondent.

Paris, To-day.

A report from a high Nazi source on the Swiss-German frontier states that in order to hide the fact that Elser (arrested for alleged complicity in the Munich bomb plot) was at Dauchau concentration camp from 1937 until after the Munich explosion, the Gestapo executed three of Elser's companions in the camp, Peters, Becker and Stetoseld.

They are reported to have shared a cell with Elser and were his closest friends in the camp.

They were executed on Dec. 5 after refusing to sign a statement declaring they had never met Elser and that no-one of that name had ever been in the camp.

It is recalled that German newspapers on Dec. 7 published an official statement that the three men were executed for treason. —Reuter.

London, To-day.

The French radio states that following wholesale executions in Pomorze (Poland), the Gestapo have turned their attention to the district of Poznan, where 5,000 have been executed. —Reuter.

Stockholm, To-day.

More Russians are reported to be freezing to death than are killed by the Finns, while the number of Russian deserters is increasing. —Reuter.

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